

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.



No. 199.—VOL. VIII.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1846.

[SIXPENCE.

THE WESTMINSTER ELECTION.

THERE are some events which, from time to time, repeat themselves; but they do not appear in the same manner. Let a generation pass, and the same scene that was a kind of legalised riot, a political saturnalia, will be a tame, common-place affair, scarcely making more than a slight ripple on the surface of society. The Election for Westminster has just terminated, and though it has occurred at a great crisis of public affairs, has but little resembled those famous contests of which a seat for this constituency was once the object in the days when Fox and Sheridan were names of power. Then an election fixed the attention of all England; it had even a more popular and general interest than the struggle within the walls of Parliament; in the Metropolis it was a great event, it roused every political and personal feeling and antipathy; it was long in its duration, and ruinous in its expense. It was a battle of parties for men, whose names awoke more enthusiasm, deeper personal attachment, and, we may say, a livelier political faith, than we are now accustomed to see exhibited. This zeal and enthusiasm form the brightest part of the picture of the times, for human trust, sacrifice, and energetic exertion, always have in them something noble, and to be admired. But, on the other hand, the violence and licentiousness with which the display of those qualities were accompanied, were something beyond the conception of the present age. The scenes they gave rise to furnished abundant materials for the condemnation of our representative system, which once abounded, more than at present, in the writings of Continental apologists for, or flatterers of, despotic government. They more readily saw the external rudeness and violence of party zeal, than the inward and better admiration of worth, talent, and public services, on which that zeal was grounded; and the licence of a mob

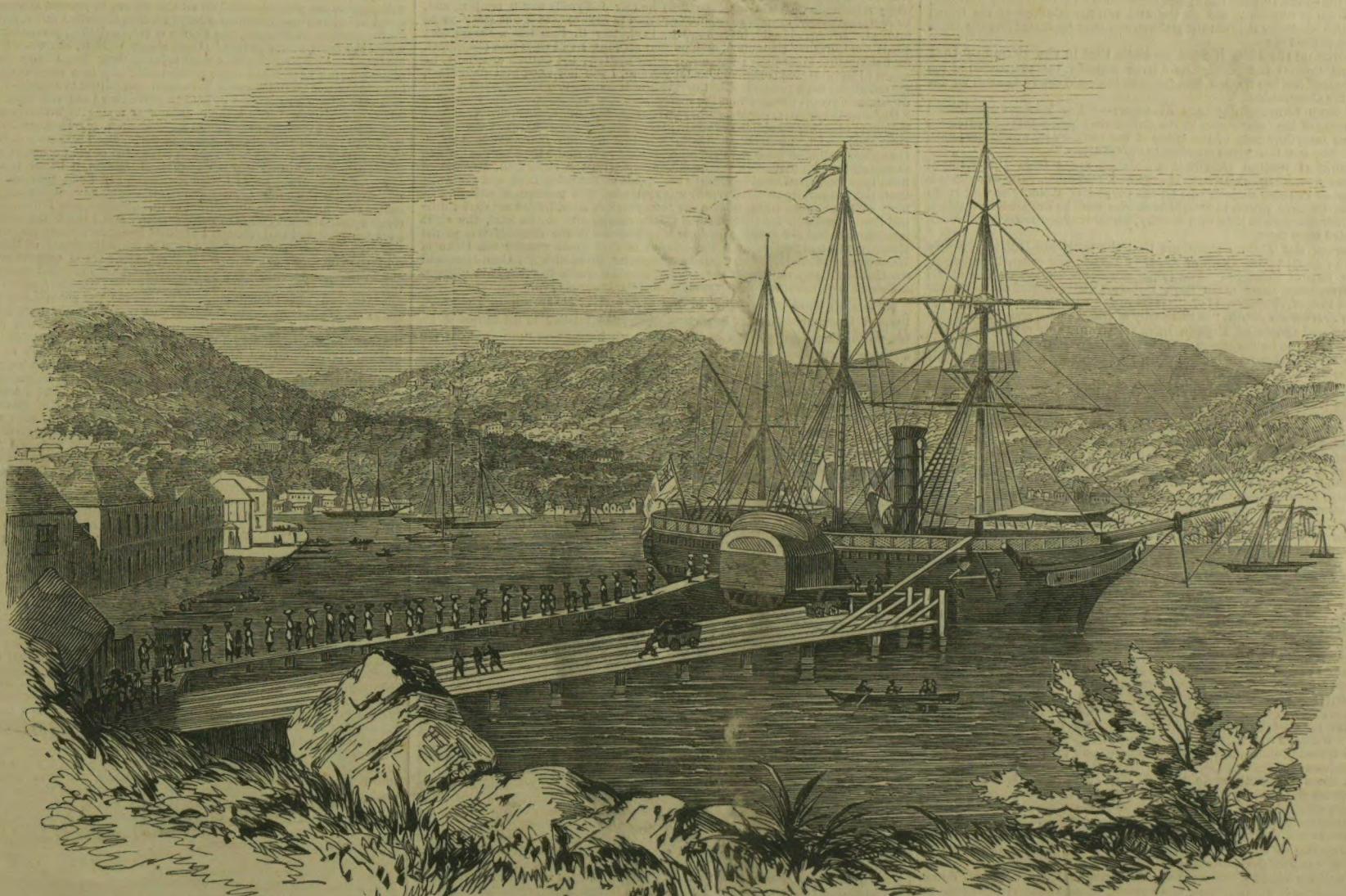
was confounded with, and taken to be a necessary consequence of, permitting a free choice of their representatives to the people. In fact, there was much in the occurrences of the time of which we speak, that could be seized by a clever opponent of popular institutions, for the purpose of turning them into ridicule, or making them objects of fear. Attacks on personal character, drunkenness, bribery, fights (individual and *en masse*); lampoons of the most atrocious falsehood; caricatures, remarkable more for ugliness than wit; and a rough treatment of the very men for whom all this excitement was got up, in the name of friendship, but which was almost as bad as hatred—all these abounded.

The ordeal of the Hustings was then a test of the strength of nerves, if not of principles, in the candidate; he was assailed with other weapons than questions as to his future votes on the Corn-Laws, the Ballot, or the Extension of the Franchise; the shouts of his own party built no bulwark against the peltings of his opponents, nor was it an indemnity for bruises and filth to know his party had made reprisals in the same way, and balanced accounts with the "hon. gentlemen on the other side," with the same currency. It was at the Covent-garden Hustings in particular that the pelting of Candidates, at first an abuse, no doubt, was elevated into an established usage; the vicinity of the vegetable market, helped this on greatly, by at once suggesting the temptation and furnishing the means of gratifying it. Old pictures of the front of St. Paul's Church, on such occasions, are now worth looking at as showing what an election was in the "good old times." The Candidates and their friends are all but hid by an avalanche of vegetable productions, in which turnips, which might in size rival those of Sir C. Napier himself, "as big and as thick as the heads of most hon. gentlemen in the House," play a conspicuous

part, with accompaniments that we do not choose to describe. The people, used to the practice at the pillory, acquired a love for the custom, and an expertness in it, unknown, we hope, to this generation, the zest of the thing being heightened by the feeling that the objects of this rough sort of homage were men with whom they would never afterwards come in contact but on the terms of Member and Constituent—which are very different from those of Candidate and Elector.

The tradition is now dying out; but a quasi-riot, and an actual pelting of the leaders in the contest, were long considered almost inseparable from a due and satisfactory election—just as the Gallery at our Theatres invariably insist on the Clown in the Pantomime singing "Hot Codlins:" it used to be comic once, we suppose, or it would not have established itself; but the effect of it now, as given by our successors of Grimaldi, is lamentably the reverse of funny: still it is one of "the ancient institutions" of our Theatres, and the true Conservative Benches are in the Gallery—they permit no innovations. In the same way, the Hustings had its traditions; pelting the candidates was one of them—it was a privilege of the occasion: even the Turks are permitted to curse the Sultan and his officers, when there is a great fire in Constantinople. All nations have their peculiar usages.

The change that has come over us—and it is one for the better—has arisen, first, from the improved intelligence of the people, that enables them to exercise a right without abusing it; more sober habits may have also done much towards it; and, lastly, the changes in the mode of taking the votes, and the limit placed upon the time of election, have done much more. What was good-humour and joke on the first day of a contest, might become ill-natured and earnest enough on the seventh or eighth. But



ST. GEORGE'S HARBOUR, GRENADA.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

here is yet another cause, and it is not wholly one to congratulate ourselves upon; there is more political indifference and distrust of men now than twenty or thirty years ago. More than half the constituency of Westminster have not voted at all in this Election! Formerly such luke-warmness would have been impossible. The fact, too, that on the great question of the day, the Whig and Tory Candidate were of the same opinion, is a very significant one, of the levelling of party distinctions. Such an identity of sentiment in the rivals of a Westminster contest, is almost unprecedented. Then much of the excitement which used to explode at the Hustings in the choice of men, is now turned into the continuous and quiet energy which is carried into leagues and associations for the advancement of measures. Here we argue, explain, and advocate, till policies and changes are forced on Governments and Ministries more effectually than by the week's riot and extravagance of an Election. The great constituencies were once, too, the only open ones; in them was expressed, as in a centre, the popular feeling of the whole nation,—no wonder that it was done violently and fiercely; now the close boroughs are rather the exception, the open constituencies numerous. All this may satisfactorily account for the great difference between the present and the past as seen in Westminster Elections.

GRENADA.

Grenada, one of the most beautiful of the West India Islands, is situated between 12 deg. 20 sec. and 11 deg. 58 sec., latitude; and between 61 deg. 20 sec. and 61 deg. 35 sec., longitude. It is about twenty-five miles in length, and twelve in extreme breadth. The island is traversed from north to south by an irregular ridge of mountains, which, at the highest points, are nearly 3000 feet above the level of the sea.

Grenada was originally discovered by Columbus; but not settled until taken possession of by the French, in 1650. It was captured from the French by the British, in 1762; and retaken, but ultimately ceded to the British.

At the present time, the principal harbour of this Island (St. George's) is well known as the great rendezvous of all the ships belonging to the splendid line of Royal Mail Steam-packets, that ply between the mother country and the West India Islands.

One of these superb steam-ships is shown in our Illustration, from a sketch by a Correspondent.

Though small, the harbour is of great depth; and affords safe anchorage for ships of any size.

This harbour has also the advantage of a plentiful supply of excellent fresh water, which is brought by means of pipes to the end of a small pier, from whence ships fill their tanks with very little labour.

A large supply of coal (about 1500 tons per month) is brought to Grenada every month, for the use of the steamers. The negro women of the island are employed in the trans-shipment of this article from the colliers to the wharf, and back to the steam-ships; about 200 women being thus employed, at the rate of one shilling and sixpence per day. The population of Grenada is at present 29,000. The exportation of sugar in the time of slavery was about 23,000 hogsheads; at present it is about 5000.

EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

A private letter from Palermo dated Feb. 2, says:—"The health of the Empress of Russia has been wonderfully benefited by her residence in this climate; indeed it may be said that her Imperial Majesty is now convalescent. She drives out daily for hours together, and has given some beautiful *soirées dansantes*. The Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury, who are passing the winter here, are frequent guests at the palace."

The following is an extract from a private letter dated from the seat of war in India, Dec. 23, 1845:—"30,000 men advance guard, with 70 guns, are now marching upon Ferozepore, where are stationed only 6000 men and 20 guns. No reinforcements can by possibility be brought up in less than three days, by long forced marches. No quarter is to be given to the 'white faces.' Although our men will thrash the Sikhs in the end, yet the odds are fearful, and we have to fight against men well trained by Alaud, Ventura, Avitabile, and other experienced French officers. 30 new regiments will be required, at least, to hold the new country."

A letter from Saxe-Coburg of the 6th, says:—"The new elections having resulted in the return of all the members of the last Chamber, M. de Lepel, the Duke's Minister, who advised the dissolution, has given in his resignation, which is accepted."

The *Constitutionnel* publishes a petition presented by the wife of the unfortunate Rienzi to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, three weeks before he was delivered up to the Papal Government. It is extremely affecting, and is said to have moved the Grand Duke to tears; but the stern laws of state policy prevailed over the feelings of humanity, and on the 24th ult. the Ministers of the Grand Duke overruled his desire to grant the petition, and gave up Rienzi into the hands of the officers of the Pope.

From Berne on the 13th instant we learn that in the sitting of that day the Grand Council had adopted, by a large majority, the proposition of the Executive Council and the Sixteen, that the people should elect a Council for the Revision of the Constitution.

A letter from Oran, of January 31, says:—"The losses experienced at the beginning of the insurrection by the civil convoy, proceeding from Mersa to Oran, have been fully paid by the tribes of the territory on which the attack took place. The sum thus given amounts to 69,000 francs."

The Frankfort journal publishes a Cabinet order from the King of Prussia, dated from Charlottenbourg, the 23rd of December, 1845, wherein it is provided that all Prussian subjects who for the purpose of avoiding serving in the army become Catholic priests in foreign countries shall be declared incapable of exercising their functions in their own country, seeing that no greater punishment can be inflicted upon them.

The *Journal des Débats* mentions that the parricide Dubarry, lately condemned to death by the Court of Assize of Tarbes, was ordered for execution on the 12th of February. The criminal records show that one of his ancestors of the same name (Jean Marie Dubarry) was executed for a similar crime on the 12th of February, 1746. "Is there not something extraordinary," remarks the *Journal des Débats*, "in this parity of crime, name, and date."

The King and Queen of Prussia have taken up their residence at the Royal Palace at Berlin for the season. Their Majesties recently honoured by their presence an amateur theatrical representation, got up under the direction of the officers of the Alexander Grenadier Corps.

The *Augsburg Gazette* announces, that at the last Consistory held at Rome on the 19th ult., the Pope, after giving his sanction to the appointment of a number of Bishops, declared that the Emperor Nicholas had promised him to put a period to the religious persecution against the Catholics of his empire.

Accounts have been received from the Caucasus to the 18th of Jan. Gen. Freitag continued till the 5th Jan. the operation of cutting down and burning the forest in the Tschetschenen, and then set out on his return. The formidable forest which has for so many years served as a bulwark is no more. The Russian troops had continual skirmishes with the enemy, yet had only one officer killed, six wounded, two received contusions; eight privates were killed, sixty-two wounded, nine received contusions. On the 16th of Dec. there was a sharp action, at the beginning of which the Cossacks were led into an ambuscade, and sustained some loss; but the reserve coming up, they repulsed the enemy, who left behind a great number of cattle taken from the Nogay. The Russians had 37 killed and wounded. The enemy had above 100 wounded; besides killed who were carried off, they left 15 dead in the field.

A letter from Norkoping (Sweden) states, that on the 19th ult., about nine in the morning, the waters of the Motala suddenly fell, and continued to decrease so rapidly that, at four in the afternoon, the neighbouring population were able to descend into the bed of the stream and catch the fish, which lay nearly without water. The next day the river began to rise, and in two days attained its usual height. During the year 1838 this river had also twice fallen suddenly, but never so low as on the present occasion.

We learn by letters from Stuttgart, that nothing can exceed the magnificence of the new palace which the King is erecting there for the residence of the Prince Royal of Württemberg and his lovely bride, the Grand Duchess Olga of Russia. Works of art, in painting and sculpture, of immense value, are to adorn this splendid edifice, and a refined taste is said to have presided over the whole arrangements.

Letters from Coblenz state that 48,000 bushels of flour had been withdrawn from the military stores of Wesel, Cologne, Jülich, and Coblenz, and placed at the disposal of the President in Chief of the Rhineish provinces, to be divided among the inhabitants of the most distressed districts, who will pay for the supply at the rate to be fixed after the next harvest.

The affiancing of the Grand Duchess of Olga and the Prince Royal of Württemberg was published officially at St. Petersburg on the 4th.

The *Augsburg Gazette* states, from Teheran, that the Shah of Persia remains dangerously ill, and there being reason to fear that at his death his brothers and uncles would dispute the succession with his son, who is only sixteen years of age, the Grand Vizier was endeavouring to strengthen the cause of the legitimate heir by an alliance with Russia, in favour of which country he was daily making concessions of importance.

We hear from Naples, that a tournament is shortly to be held at the Palace of Caserta, by desire of the King, who takes a lively interest in the preparations for this splendid *fiesta*, which are to be conducted on a scale of unusual magnificence. The costumes are to be in the style of the middle ages.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

REPEAL OF THE CORN-LAWS.—Petitions were presented for and against the repeal of the Corn-laws. The Duke of RICHMOND presented 200 of the latter. He said that all these petitions were in favour of Protection, and against the bill which had been introduced so much to the damage of many individual characters in another place; and they hoped that their Lordships would force the Minister of the Crown to appeal to the constituencies, in order that it might be seen whether they had made as short a turn on this matter as he appeared to have done.

BURTHENS UPON LAND.—Lord BEAUMONT moved that a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the burdens on real property, and the impediments to agricultural transactions caused by the present system of Excise duties, Poor-laws, and local taxation.—The motion led to a rather discursive discussion upon agriculture and the Corn-laws.—In the course of it, Lord STANLEY said, he wished to record his firm opinion, that the question of the maintenance or abolition of the Corn-laws rested upon something far above the individual interests of the agriculturists, or of any other class in the community. That question must be weighed, not by any pecuniary consideration, which was the lowest point, but by the effect which the maintenance or the abolition of these laws would have upon the great social, moral, and political interests of the whole community. (Cheers.)—Lord MONTEAGLE moved an amendment, extending the inquiry to the legislative exemptions and pecuniary advantages provided by law in respect to taxation as affecting landed property.—The motion, thus amended, was agreed to.

The Administration of Criminal Justice Bill was read a third time and passed. The House sat till half-past ten.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

NEW MEMBER.—Mr. Finch took the oath and his seat for Rutlandshire, in the room of the Hon. Mr. Dawney, who had accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

THE WAR IN INDIA.—In answer to Sir R. Inglis, Lord JOCELYN said the Government had not received any official account of the invasion of the British territory in India by the Sikh troops; but a private letter was received from the Governor of Bombay addressed to the noble Lord at the head of the Board of Control, enclosing a private communication received by express, dated Ferozepore, Dec. 23. In that letter it was stated that on the 16th of that month large bodies of the Sikh troops, in violation of the treaty of 1805, crossed the Sutlej and menaced Ferozepore; that on the 18th the advanced guard of the British army was attacked by the Sikh forces; that attack was vigorously repelled and the enemy pursued upwards of three miles, when, owing to the darkness of the night, the pursuit was relinquished. On the 21st the main body of the British army, the centre commanded by the Governor-General, and the right by the Commander-in-Chief, attacked the enemy in a fortified encampment, in front of which they had thrown up double entrenchments and strengthened the position with armed bodies of men. The first entrenchment was carried that evening, and the following morning, in the course of half an hour (the centre of the British troops being led by the Governor-General, and the right by the Commander-in-Chief), the second entrenchment was taken; the batteries swept, a large proportion of the guns captured, and the communications of the army opened with Ferozepore. The enemy were driven back upon a place called Sultankhanwalla, where it was the intention of the Governor-General and the Commander-in-Chief to attack them. Such was the position of affairs when that letter left Ferozepore; there can be little doubt that before many days the Government will be enabled to congratulate the House and the country on the complete success of the British arms. (Hear.)

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE UPON SIR R. PEEL'S PROPOSED COMMERCIAL CHANGES.

The adjourned debate was commenced by

The Earl of MARCH, who opposed the measure, as being neither just nor necessary, and as being likely to prove detrimental to all classes of the community.

Mr. GIBSON supported it, but he argued strenuously that the repeal of the Corn-laws should be immediate, even for the benefit of the agriculturist, and he hoped the sense of the House would be taken upon this part of the case. If they wanted to judge of the tendency of public opinion on this subject, they should look to what the right hon. Baronet was doing. He was an admirable barometer of public opinion, for he was moving with it wisely and prudently, and from what he was doing, they might know what the public were thinking.

Mr. HALSEY opposed the measure of the Government, insisting that it was impossible for the public to give its confidence to a Ministry which had no shadow of claim to consistency. He condemned the proceedings of the Anti Corn-law League as dishonest, and he believed illegal, and feared they were not without their influence in bringing about the present measure.

Mr. DICKINSON spoke in support of the proposals.

Lord A. CHURCHILL, who addressed the House for the first time, spoke energetically against them.

Mr. L. W. BUCK offered his strenuous opposition to the plan proposed by the Government.

Sir W. Clay, Lord H. Vane, and Mr. James, spoke in favour of it.

Sir J. TYRELL gave utterance to some sarcastic taunts against Sir R. Peel, and announced, as one reason for his opposition to the measure, that it would not really settle the question:—"So far from this being a settlement of the question, not many moons would pass before the right hon. Baronet would come forward with a proposition for the abolition of the differential duty on sugar. And upon what ground could it be resisted? It was the necessary consequence of the present measure. He thought it was to be deplored that the noble Lord the member for London, and the hon. member for Stockport, seemed to have been seized with a kind of *delirium tremens*. The hon. member for Stockport, who acted as a sort of crutch for the right hon. Baronet to lean on, must have been surprised at his boldness. The hon. member had shrunk from carrying out his own views when offered office. But the views of the hon. member were intelligible. After prophesying, as he had done, the fall of the sugar duties, he would state another prophecy. It was a most extraordinary prophecy; but nobody need to be surprised at anything. In a work lately published, was a most extraordinary prophecy relating to the right hon. Baronet; he (Sir J. Tyrell) would read it, and he regretted to say, there was too much reason to believe that it was about to be fulfilled. Dr. Arnold said, in November, 1836, 'Sir R. Peel has a strong idea about the Currency (laughter), and, on that account, I will trust him (laughter), for not yielding to clamour; but, about other matters, the Church especially, he seems to have no idea (laughter), and, therefore, I will not trust him (laughter), for not giving it up to-morrow, if the clamour is loud enough.' (Cheers.) He (Sir John Tyrell) thought that the sooner posterity had an opportunity (cries of 'Oh,' and laughter) — the sooner posterity had an opportunity (renewed laughter) of giving an opinion of the merits of the right hon. Baronet, the better (laughter); and, he had no doubt, it would do him most ample justice. (Laughter.) But he must say that, when the noble Lord the member for London explained to them that there was a conspiracy with the right hon. Baronet to hand over the agricultural interest to the hands of the noble Lord and the Anti-Corn-law League, he (Sir J. Tyrell) was reminded of a passage of ancient history. When Cassius contemplated the betraying of Caesar, he did not dare till he had first gained over the noble Brutus to his cause; and so, he said, the right hon. Baronet had not dared to propose this measure to the consideration of the House, till he had first secured the opinion of that great warrior the Duke of Wellington. If the House of Commons consented to abolish the Corn-laws, and the House of Lords recorded the verdict, it would disunite ties that have hitherto connected together the high, the middle, and the lower classes."

Sir ROBERT PEEL then spoke. In the first part of his speech the right hon. Baronet made some further important disclosures relative to the causes of his late resignation. He said, "Two matters of great importance have occupied the attention of the House during this protracted debate: one, the manner in which a party should be conducted; and the other, the measures by which to meet the contingencies of a great public calamity shall be vindicated, and the principles by which the commercial character of a great empire shall for the future be governed. On the first point—the manner in which a party shall be conducted—by far the greater part of this debate has been expended. I don't undervalue its importance, but surely it is subordinate, in the eyes of the people of this country, to those two other questions to which I have referred—(Cheers from the Opposition)—the precautions to be taken against a great danger, the principles by which your commercial policy should hereafter be governed. (Cheers again.) On the party question I admit I have little defence to make. (Cheers from the Protectionists.) Yes, our measures are, I admit, the very worst measures that could be adopted for party interests. (Vehement Opposition cheering.) I make this admission at once; and further that it is unfortunate that the conduct of those measures (so far at least as the Corn-laws are concerned) should be committed to me. I admit at once that it would be far preferable—even assuming that the question must be settled—that those should have the credit (if credit there be) of its settlement who have been its uniform and consistent advocates. (Protectionist cheering.) That which prevented myself, and those who concurred with me, from committing it to other hands, was the firm conviction under which I laboured that a part of this empire was threatened with a great famine. I did firmly believe—I do firmly believe—that there is impending over you, and will come at no very remote period, a calamity which all must admit and deplore; and while there was that danger, with no hopes of averting it, I did not consider it consistent with my duty to my Sovereign, or with my honour as a public man, to take an opportunity of evading the difficulty which I saw impending. (Loud cheers from both sides.) While I entertained the hope of a concurrent and agreeing Administration, I thought there was a prospect of bringing this question to a settlement. When compelled to abandon that hope—my sense of the coming evil remaining the same—I took the earliest opportunity (and I took it with the utmost satisfaction) of adopting the course which my sense of duty and of public honour required—namely, to tender my resignation to the Queen, leaving her Majesty full opportunity of consulting other advisers. I offered no opinion as to the choice of a successor. That is almost the only personal act of the Sovereign. (Loud cries of 'hear, hear.') It is for the Sovereign to determine in whom confidence ought to be placed. (Cries of 'hear, hear,' from both sides.) It was my duty to ascertain, in consequence of the request of the Queen, whether those of my colleagues who had dissented from me were either prepared themselves to form a Government, or whether they were prepared to advise her Majesty (if they themselves were not able to form a Government) as to the hands to which could be entrusted the formation of a Cabinet on the principle of maintaining the existing Corn-laws. Those from whom I differed—who had not concurred with me either as to the full extent of the danger, or as to the policy of altering the existing law—did signify it as their opinion that it would not be for the public interests that they should form a Government; nor would they advise her Majesty to resort to others for the formation of a Government—I mean a Government formed on the principle of maintaining the

existing law. Her Majesty determined to call on the noble Lord (Lord J. Russell) to undertake the duty of forming an Administration. I was relieved from the responsibilities of office. The noble Lord was sent for. My firm belief was that the noble Lord would have been enabled to undertake the duty of forming a Government, and that if he had so undertaken the formation of a Government he would have succeeded. Throughout a long course of opposition to the noble Lord, I can never charge myself with having said a word disrespectful to him. We have sat opposite each other for many years, but nothing has ever occurred to lead to acrimonious feelings, or to engender a spirit of hostility. (Cries of 'hear, hear,' from Lord John Russell.) But I must say the noble Lord disappointed me when he did not at once undertake the Government on the principle of an abolition of the present Corn-laws. (Some cries of 'hear,' from the Opposition.) My impression was, that the noble Lord would have undertaken the Government; my impression was, that I was merely in the capacity of a private member; my strong opinion was, that we had cause for apprehending great danger; my opinion also was, that in taking precautions against that danger, we must compel the necessity of a final settlement of the Corn-law question. I knew all the difficulties which any man would have to contend with who undertook the conduct of Government. I knew the great dislocation which the frame of Government had received in the breaking-up of the Administration of which I was the head; and I thought it would be unfair and dishonourable, under the impression that that noble Lord would be Minister, not to take those steps which must diminish his embarrassments. (Cheers from both sides.) Sir, I have not a word of complaint to make against the noble Lord for the statement which he the other night submitted. The explanations I gave related chiefly to the part which I took while I remained in the Government. The noble Lord read a letter, a copy of which he said was in his possession, and the general statement of its contents which the noble Lord gave was perfectly fair and honest. But the noble Lord said there were other letters not in his possession. As reference has been made to those letters—to one, at least, of primary importance—I feel it my duty, in order to show I was sincere in saying that I deprecated a settlement of this question being committed to my hands—I think it right for my vindication in that respect to state to the House the course I pursued. (Loud cries of 'hear, hear,' from both sides. I relinquished office on the 6th December, 1845. I knew then, of course, that those of my colleagues who differed from me declined to form an Administration in accordance with those views, and could not advise the formation of such a Government. I was aware, too, that the noble Lord, though not at my suggestion, had been sent for by her Majesty. On the 8th of December, considering myself to be in a private capacity, anxious to facilitate the adjustment of this question—my opinion having been given in the Cabinet that it must be entertained—I made the communication to her Majesty, which her Majesty, I believe, made known to the noble Lord. The noble Lord had not a copy of this letter, or I have no doubt he would have read it. I wrote it from myself, and in a private capacity, on the 8th of December, two days after I quitted office, and when I heard the noble Lord was accepted as Minister:—

Whitehall, December 8.

Sir Robert Peel presents his humble duty to your Majesty, and, influenced by no other motive than the desire to contribute, if possible, to the relief of your Majesty from embarrassment, and to the protection of the public interests from injury, is induced to make to your Majesty this confidential communication explanatory of Sir Robert Peel's position and intentions with regard to the great question which is now agitating the public mind.

Your Majesty can, if you think fit, make this communication known to the Minister who, as successor to Sir Robert Peel, may be honoured by your Majesty's confidence.

On the 1st of November last Sir Robert Peel advised his colleagues, on account of the alarming accounts from Ireland, and many districts in this country, as to the failure of the potato crop from disease, and for the purposes of preventing a general famine, which in his opinion were impossible, him to recommend to your Majesty that the duties on the import of foreign grain should be suspended for a limited period, either by Order in Council, or by legislative enactment; Parliament in either case being summoned without delay.

Sir Robert Peel foresaw that this suspension, fully justified by the tenor of the report to which he has referred, would compel, during the interval of suspension, the reconsideration of the Corn-laws.

If the opinions of his colleagues had then been in concurrence with his own, he was fully prepared to take the responsibility of suspension, and of the necessary consequence of suspension and other articles of food, with a view to their gradual diminution and ultimate removal.

He was disposed to recommend that any new laws to be enacted should contain within themselves the principle of gradual and ultimate removal.

Sir Robert Peel is prepared to support, in a private capacity, measures which may be in general conformity with those which he advised as a Minister.

It would be unbecoming in Sir Robert Peel to make any

you should make allowances for those who were charged with the duty of providing for the public safety; and, in case of this failure, we must be aware that within three or four months this disease would be followed with traces of famine: and under these circumstances was it not our duty to the country, as well as to the party, not to neglect the taking due precautions? (Hear.) I wish that my anticipations may not be fulfilled; but it is of the last moment, it is absolutely necessary, before coming to a final decision on this question, that you should understand the Irish question. (Cheers.) I cannot consent to confess that I entertain any feelings of regret at the course which I then took; so far from it, that I declare to the House that that day in my political life on which I look with most satisfaction and pride, was that on which I was ready and prepared to take upon myself the responsibility of issuing an Order in Council for the opening of the ports, and trusting to you for an act of indemnity. (Loud cheers.) My primary and particular object was to increase the supply of food in the country, and thus make provision against famine, and there might also have been other collateral advantages which would follow—but I thought, I say, that the best course to have taken was to have opened the ports. (Hear, hear.) Suppose that my anticipations proved incorrect, and that I had fancied a false estimate of the danger which threatened, I believed that even then the generosity of Parliament would have made allowance for the motives that had actuated me, and would have granted an indemnity, (cheers) even if my anticipations were not fulfilled by the result. (Hear, hear.) But what are the facts? There was, during the latter part of December, and the beginning of January, said to be something like a lull—a suspension of the potato disease. I never shared in the prophetic feeling as to the ample supply of food, and that the potato disease had vanished, after the opinions on the subject which I had received from most able men of science, who had been directed by the Government to investigate the matter. But I ask, what were the facts of the case? I hold in my hand some papers which will throw a light upon this subject. I shall read them, not so much for a vindication of the Government, but as I conceive that it is not right that I should leave the House ignorant of the facts of the case. I know the measure before the House is not directly for opening the ports, but it is almost equivalent to that step, for its object is the immediate admission of maize, and other descriptions of grain, free of duty, and the reduction of the duty on wheat to 4s. the quarter. Some persons, I know, say that it would be better at once to reduce the duty to nothing. (Hear, hear.) But still, this is a virtual removal of the duty on all descriptions of corn, with the exception of wheat. Before, then, you finally decide on rejecting this measure, I ask you to look well to the circumstances of the case. You affect to doubt the accuracy of these official reports, but this can only be on the assumption that official men would deceive in such documents. But I will not depend on statements from official men, but I will refer to letters which have been received from Ireland, by the two last mails, and the accuracy of which, I think, will not be doubted, when I state from whence they come.

Sir Robert Peel then read various communications from Ireland, giving lamentable accounts of the potato crop, and anticipating great distress, if not famine, in the ensuing summer. Upon these grounds, he urged the House to agree to the proposals submitted to it. He then proceeded:—

"It may be quite true that the most fitting time for following the course I advised has passed away, and that the 1st of November would have been a better period for opening the ports than the 16th of February; but, admitting that to be true, I tell you, at the same time, that the necessity which existed for the adoption of this measure on the 1st of November, is, on February 16, only increased. (Loud cheers.) It is true that the supply might have been more ample, and the area of our supply more extended; but you have six months yet to come. Let some one make some other proposal; but, I say, you must choose between the alternatives—either maintain the existing Corn-laws, or make some proposal for increasing the facilities of procuring food by the importation of foreign corn. If it be admitted that, on account of temporary and unforeseen necessity, the present system should be relaxed, all reason is in favour of the suspension of the existing law. (Hear.) Let us assume that the law had been suspended, and I have to consider the second question, from which I assure the House I should not shrink. After the suspension of the existing law eight months would elapse—what would you propose to do with the present Corn-laws? This is a question which I advise the House to consider. My conviction is as strong as it possibly can be, that it would be as utterly impossible, after establishing freedom of trade in this country for eight months, and permitting the free importation of grain for that period, at the end of it to permit the existing Corn-laws to come into operation, as it would be impolitic and impracticable." (Loud cheers.)

Sir R. Peel then met the arguments of several hon. members who had argued in favour of protection. In reference to Mr. Colquhoun he said—"As to the honourable member for Newcastle-under-Lyne, he tells me hereafter and for ever, from this time he withdraws his confidence from me (laughter), on the ground that I establish no great principle as to the Corn-laws. If ever there was a man to whom a Minister ought to be recommended because he does not establish a great principle, it is the honourable gentleman in question. (Laughter.) He has fought by the side of the honourable member for Wolverhampton and has voted against him—he is an advocate for a fixed duty, but he has done all he could to defeat it. I do not know whether he has so far shared so much of my misfortunes as to have read the pamphlets of a Mr. J. Colquhoun (great laughter), but I doubt not but that he will agree with me, in so far as I can understand them, that the author is an advocate for a repeal of the Corn-laws. If the honourable gentleman has voted with the honourable member for Wolverhampton and against him—if he is the determined advocate of a fixed duty, and has done all that he could since 1842 to maintain a sliding scale—I wonder how I should have fared with the honourable gentleman—I wonder what he would have said, after having carried a motion for the suspension of the Corn-laws, if at the end of that time the Government were to stake their existence on the repeal. I venture to say, there would not have been a more strenuous combatant of such a proposal." (Hear, hear.)

Sir R. Peel announced his adherence to the proposal of future, rather than immediate, repeal:—"Bona fide believing the arrangement to be a better one—believing, also, that it was more for the advantage of agriculture—I, on the part of her Majesty's Government—I made that proposal (cheers); and it is my intention to use all legitimate means I can for the purpose of giving effect to it." (Cheers.)

Sir R. Peel next argued that agricultural prosperity had no necessary connection with the price of wheat, defended his proposed reduction in the duties of articles of foreign produce generally, and argued that relaxation of duty had been productive of advantage. He instanced timber:—"Show me one relaxation, one removal of prohibition, which has not contributed to the advantage of the great body of consumers. I will go farther. Show me one relaxation, at a very early period, which contributed to the welfare of the producer. I say, I will show you that these removals of prohibition have contributed—not merely to the general weal and advantage of the consumers (which is sufficiently apparent)—but that they are perfectly consistent with the permanent benefit and increased wealth of the producer. (Hear, hear.) Why, I am ashamed when I read some of the petitions. Here is one presented from the shipowners. ('Hear, hear,' and laughter.) It says, your petitioners are deeply interested in the prosperity of British navigation and the British colonies, and this is the prayer with which it concludes: they implore the wisdom of Parliament to check all further rash experiments on British navigation. And, as an earnest of its sympathy with the interests of commerce—so indissolubly connected with national defence—they implore your honourable House at once to reject the proposition for the reduction of the duty on foreign timber from 25s. to 15s., as proposed by the measure before you. (Hear, hear.) This is from the shipowners—the builders of ships ('hear,' and laughter)—praying you to check all further rash experiments. Why, what is the issue of the 'rash experiment' you made in 1842? You found a discriminating duty of 45s. in favour of Canadian timber, and you reduced it to 25s. Have you destroyed the Canadian trade? Has that rash experiment been injurious to the shipowner? (I don't speak of the Baltic shipowner.) Let us see. In Liverpool, the average tonnage employed in the British American trade (for I won't take the Baltic timber trade), during the eleven years preceding the reduction of duty, was 153,000 tons. This was with the discriminating duty. Now that you have removed it, in the last three years the tonnage of ships engaged in the trade from Liverpool is 194,500. (Loud cheers.) This was the shipping employed in the Canada trade. The quantity of pine timber imported into Liverpool, on an average of seven years, before the reduction of duty, was 5,749,000 loads. In 1844, the quantity of pine timber brought into Liverpool from British North America increased, after the reduction of duty, from 5,749,000 to 6,211,000. (Cheers.) In 1845, the quantity was 6,827,000. (Loud cheers.) The shipowners ask you to reject the proposition for reducing the discriminating duty still further to 15s. What is the state of things at Liverpool under the existing law? One branch of the timber trade has, this year, been very scantily supplied with those woods adapted for the construction of ships of the first class. So trifling has been the supply, that, at the present moment, this, one of the greatest maritime ports in the world, is in the anomalous condition of not having in stock a single log of foreign wood suitable for building ships that will last for twelve years time. (Hear, hear.) We propose to give increased facilities for the importation of Baltic timber, in order that, with it, good ships should be built. We have done this to some extent already, and, concurrently with it, there has been an enormous increase in the consumption of Canadian timber."

Sir R. Peel pursued this argument in regard to various articles of foreign produce, and concluded his speech, (which lasted three hours), in these terms:—"Is it not strange how gentlemen can forget historic facts, and ally themselves to their own infatuations? Look at the state of your silk trade at this moment. The French have been long accustomed to plume themselves upon their silk manufactures. But it may, perhaps, surprise not a few of those who are now listening to me, to learn that last year, with our relaxed tariff, we actually exported to France more silk than we exported to the whole universe in any year under the protective system. (Hear, hear.) And there is no branch of manufactures in which the same improvement is not observable. I am prepared to prove this; and could enter into matters of the most minute calculations in support of the assertion. Look back to the commercial history of this country for the last thirty years, whether as regards our colonies, or our home transactions, and I challenge you to point out one single instance where either consumer or producer was injured by relaxing the prohibitory system. On, let me implore you to approach the consideration of this question with feelings suitable to its magnitude and importance. View it, I implore you, by the clear, calm lights of reason. Be not mistaken—not led away. This is not a question of confidence in her Majesty's Government. Reserve that, if you please, for a separate vote. The question which you have now to decide is, will you advance on your path or retrograde? (Hear, hear, and loud cheers.) I do not want to sweep away all duties from these things: I want to impose a duty of 15s. upon French brandy, whereas the English article is only subject to a duty of 9s.; and I want to impose upon French silks a duty of 15 per cent., instead of the present duty of double that amount. I put it to you whether it is not worth your while to endeavour to prevent the evil of smuggling. For my part I confess I think it is a most desirable object. I would cut up that trade root and branch, and would substitute a legal for an illegal traffic. This, to be sure, is but one of

a thousand considerations which should weigh with you in determining on the course which you will pursue. Again I would remind you that this is no party question. The question you have to decide is simply this.—Will you in this enlightened age advance or recede? Remember, the eyes of the world are upon you. Oh, act a part worthy of yourselves and of your country. Will you advance or recede? Which is the policy best suited to a great commercial empire? Remember your position—remember your great national reputation. (Hear, hear.) Look to the advantages which God and nature have bestowed upon you. Look to your geographical position, on the confines of Western Europe, the connecting link between the north of Europe and the continent of America. Remember that the improvements of navigation and the applications of science have brought you within ten days of Pittsburgh, and within ten days of New York. Look to your physical advantages—the nerves and sinews of manufacture—iron and coal—which abound throughout your country. Look to your acquired advantages, possessed as you are of a capital ten-fold greater than that of any country in the universe. Look to the inexhaustible mine of wealth that is to be found in the unwearyed perseverance, the indomitable skill of your people; look to their talent—their ingenuity—their great mental power. Look, too, to your free institutions, your unshackled press, your glorious Constitution, which, though it permits licentiousness, affords rational liberty to all; look, I say, to all the things—think of the glory England has acquired from the Equator to the Pole, and tell me, is your a country to dread competition with any country on the face of the earth. What have you to fear? Why is it that paper-hangers and silk-weavers are to be turned out of employment when protecting duties are proposed to be modified? What is to be your motto? Is it to be advance or retrograde? Other countries are now watching your example—other countries are wishing to know what is to be the result at the close of this debate. It is not a fact that every country is determined to meet you with hostile tariffs. (Hear, hear.) No, there are countries which you, perhaps, least expect, and to which I did injustice, perhaps, by not naming before—as Sardinia, which has already set the example of a free importation of your goods and manufactures. (Hear, hear.) Naples will shortly follow the example of Sardinia. (Hear.) And Prussia, I can tell you, is already shaken. (Cheers.) France is desirous of following these examples. These countries have been controlled by the aristocracies of their manufactures and commerce, which exercise a preponderating weight in their chambers; but the opinion of sensible men, not interested in Protection, is bearing upon willing Governments; and they are desirous of following your course, and of reciprocating the benefits you may offer to them. (Loud cheers.) Then the United States. (Hear, hear.) I believe you will give, by this measure, an encouragement to that party in America which is in favour of commercial intercourse with this country. But even if you do not—if you fall in this—still I repeat again, don't punish yourselves because others choose to impose restrictions upon their own commerce. This night, or whenever this debate shall close, you will have to decide what are the principles upon which your commercial policy is to be regulated. (Hear.) Most earnestly—from a deep conviction founded not upon the experience of three years, but upon the experience of every relaxation of restriction and prohibition—I advise you yourselves to set an example to other countries, by persevering in the course you have begun. (Cheers.) It is no inconsistency on your part—it is in perfect consistency with the course you have hitherto taken. Add to those measures, and you will take a Government security for the preservation of peace—you will take an additional guarantee for the contentment, and happiness, and prosperity of the great body of the people. (Cheers.) You may fail. All human precautions are necessarily precarious. After you have adopted the measures, there may be no assurance that mercantile and manufacturing prosperity will continue without opposition. It seems to be incident to great prosperity that there shall be a reverse—that a time of depression shall follow a season or excitement and success. That time of depression may return—it may return, and be coincident with a scarcity caused by unfavourable seasons. Your times of '41 and '42, in spite of all your legislative precautions, may again come back. Let me recall the recollection of those sad years. The memory of the winters of 1841 and 1842 never can be effaced from my recollection. (Hear, hear.) Recollect the course we pursued. Then, on every occasion on which the Sovereign met her Parliament, there was the expression of the deepest sympathy with privation and suffering, but an expression also of the warmest admiration for the patience and fortitude with which they were borne. (Hear, hear.) This time may recur. The years of plenteousness may intermit, and years of dearth may succeed. And if they do come, and if it be our duty again to express sympathy with sufferings, and again to exhort fortitude in their endurance, I do ask every man who hears me to commune with his own heart and to ask himself this question, If these calamitous times do come, if we must express sympathy with distress, if we must again proffer exhortations to fortitude, will it not be a consolation to reflect that we have relieved ourselves from the heavy responsibility of regulating the supply of human food? (Great cheering.) Will not our expressions of sympathy seem more sincere, will not our exhortations to fortitude be more impressive, if we can at the same time say, and with pride, that, in a time of comparative plenty, urged by no necessity, yielding to no clamour, we anticipated all those difficulties, and removed every impediment to the free circulation of the bounty of the Creator? (Loud cheers.) Will it not be a great and lasting consolation to us to be enabled to say to a suffering people, these calamities are the chastenings of an all-wise and benevolent Providence, inflicted for some great and humane purpose—perhaps to abate our pride, possibly to convince us of our nothingness, and awaken us to a sense of our dependence; they are to be borne without repining as the dispensations of Providence, for they have not been aggravated by human institutions restricting the supply of food?" (The right hon. Baronet sat down amidst loud and prolonged cheering.)

On the motion of Lord JOHN MANNERS, the debate was then adjourned till Tuesday.

The Fishery Piers and Harbours (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes to two o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

LORD BEAUMONT nominated his Committee to inquire into the burdens on landed property.—LORD BROUGHAM said he expected but little advantage from the Committee, and that the subject was one which should be discussed in the House.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY suppressed, at Mr. Gulston's request, the complaint he had intended to make, of that gentleman having been displaced by the Poor-law Commissioners of Ireland. ..

At six o'clock their Lordships adjourned till Thursday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

STATE OF IRELAND.—Mr. O'CONNELL called the attention of the House to the state of famine and disease in Ireland, and moved that the House should, on Monday, the 23rd instant, resolve itself into a Committee upon that question. He stated that five millions of the Irish population depended on the potatoes for sustenance, and that food having failed, it was the imperative duty of Parliament to provide measures for their relief. He did not ask for grants, for he knew that Ireland had resources of her own. The hon. and learned gentleman quoted various documents tending to show that the scarcity of food in Ireland was likely to be much greater than was anticipated, and that there was a gradual deterioration going forward in the numbers of the population, owing to the general state of destitution to which the mass of the inhabitants were always exposed, seldom having any other diet than potatoes and water, and frequently but a miserable supply of the former.—Sir JAMES GRAHAM admitted that the apprehensions of famine and disease in Ireland were not exaggerated by Mr. O'Connell; but he appealed to him whether the Government had not already shown their anxiety on the subject, and their determination to abate the calamity as much as lay in their power.—This appeal succeeded, and Mr. O'Connell withdrew his motion.

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE.

Lord J. MANNERS resumed the adjourned debate. He said he was not unfavourable to the consideration of measures tending to a free trade in corn, whether emanating from Lord J. Russell or Sir R. Peel; but he was not ready to give his assent to a self-contradictory measure, springing suddenly from a frightened Ministry, and by no means calculated to produce the beneficial results which they expected from this enormous revolution. The true course would have been at once, even now, to open the ports, and leave it to the good sense of the people of England to decide whether they should be re-closed.

Captain LAYARD supported the Government proposals.

Mr. F. SHAW spoke in opposition to Sir R. Peel, and said he was wholly unconvinced by the plagiarisms of the right hon. Baronet from the reasonings of the Anti-Corn-law League. The course pursued by the Government would exhibit to the world an infirmity of purpose, an instability of mind, a political tergiversation, and a Cabinet jingle, to which the history of this country afforded no parallel. For his own part he should not feel so much surprise if he should, two years hence, see the right hon. Baronet, under the influence of agitation, proposing a modified plan of Repealing the Union, as he had recently experienced in witnessing his introduction of the measure before the House under the influence of the agitation of the Anti-Corn-law League. It was a lesson that would not be lost in Ireland, and Mr. Smith O'Brien had already held up this measure as an encouragement for perseverance in the agitation for a Repeal of the Union.

Mr. BRIGHT recognised the universal applicability of the doctrines of Free-Trade. The supporters of that policy in the house connected with manufacturers had, within a recent period, impartially carried it out by voting for the unrestricted exportation of machinery, and for the withdrawal of the nominal import duty upon cotton yarn. Protection was of no value to the agricultural labourer, since it afforded him no equivalent for the enhanced prices he had to pay for his food. It was pitiable to demand protection for those who were so able to compete with foreigners with success as our countrymen. A claim had been made by the Protectionists in favour of their liability to Poor-rates. He contended that their prosperity was not changed with Poor-rates. There was, however, a burden, which had been unnoticed in the debate, and that was the Game-laws. There was incontestable evidence that public opinion predominated in favour of Free-trade principles. The Protectionist party had upbraided Sir Robert Peel because he had deemed it his duty to produce a measure to meet the emergencies of a great public crisis; but they made these imputations free from the responsibilities of official station, and no member of their party had ventured to assume the head of a Protectionist Cabinet. He then argued for the immediate repeal of the Corn-laws, and promised the exertions of the Anti-Corn-law League to secure that result—that result having been achieved, the League would immediately dissolve. The awful state of things in Ireland, and the misery amid the labouring population, were matters of too serious moment to be put into competition with resentment towards a Parliamentary leader, or "the breaking up of the great Conservative party."

Mr. HUDSON strongly supported the principle of Protection as the only sound one upon which they could proceed to legislate, and contended that the House ought not to be called upon to legislate permanently for the purpose of obviating a temporary calamity. He advocated the necessity of appealing to the country before passing this measure, which was one of such vast importance, and so likely to prove injurious to the agricultural interests.

On the motion of Lord DUNCAN, the debate was once more adjourned. The House sat till half-past two in the morning.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The House of Commons met this day at twelve o'clock, but the business transacted was unimportant. Several railway bills were read a second time, and some petitions were presented. The House, after sitting about an hour, adjourned till Thursday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

THE CORN-LAW LEAGUE.—Lord DACRE presented a petition for an inquiry into the Corn-Law League.—Lord KINNAIRD said, as a member of the League, he courted inquiry. They acted fairly and above board. It was composed of men of all parties, and even of men who did not approve of the League, but who were desirous of seeing the Corn-Laws repealed. The League was acting legally and constitutionally, to effect objects which others pursued by worse means. He repeated that he courted inquiry.—Lord REDESDALE presented a petition from Northumberland, signed by 1000 persons, in favour of Protection. In his opinion the proceedings of the League, in respect to registration, were unconstitutional, even if they were legal. He would say that the proceedings of the League in this respect were ten times worse than the part taken by the Duke of Bedford, in making faggot voters in Huntingdonshire. Unless Parliament took up the matter, Parliament would cease to be the most important body in the country.—Lord KINNAIRD said the practice of the Constitution was to make votes, and one of the watchwords of the party to which the noble Lord (Redesdale) belonged, was "Register, register." He knew that butlers had been made voters by Peers. He (Lord Kinnaird) thought it was an abuse, and he was quite ready to go into the question with the noble Lord. As to the League, if the Corn-laws were repealed, that body would be dissolved.

THE RIO DE LA PLATA.—Lord BEAUMONT moved for the correspondence relative to the interference of England and France in the affairs of Rio de la Plata. The noble Lord then traced the events which had taken place, and said that the noble Earl (Aberdeen) had not only acted with impolicy, but contrary to the usual course. After some little discussion, Lord Beaumont withdrew his motion, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

NEW MEMBERS.—Mr. T. O'BRIEN took the oaths and his seat for the borough of Cashel, in the room of Dr. Stock; and the Hon. Mr. Elliott Lockhart, for Selkirkshire, in the room of Mr. Pringle.

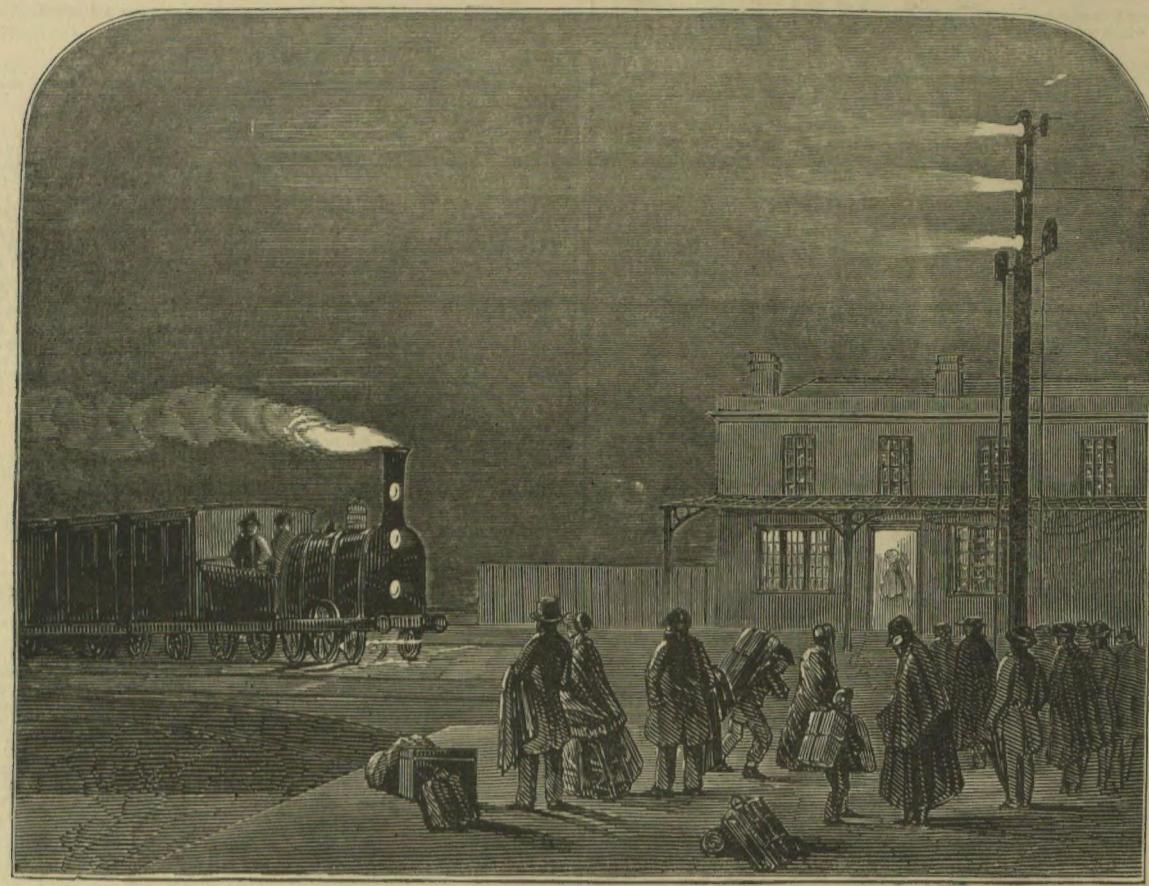
The County Works (Ireland) Bill, and the Drainage (Ireland) Bill, were read a third time and passed.

INTERFERENCE OF PEERS WITH ELECTIONS.—Mr. COLLETT rose to call the attention of the House to the standing orders of the House, which prohibited the interference of Peers in the election of the Commons, had of late become so gross. (Cheers and laughter, occasioned by the hon. member reading from a paper.) He had well weighed his words, and he was no advocate for long speeches; he would therefore read. (Continued laughter.) He meant to say that the Commons of England (Laughter)—yes, he would say. (Increased laughter.) It was quite impossible to catch one word out of every sentence which fell from the hon. member, in consequence of the cheers and laughter with which his speech was received.) The hon. gentleman was understood to depurate the conduct of the Duke of Richmond, Buckingham, Newcastle, and Marlborough, in interfering in the late elections for Chichester, Buckingham, Newark, and Woodstock; and to impress upon the House the necessity of adopting such measures as would effectually prevent such interference for the future.—Mr. W. WILLIAMS seconded the motion; but it being opposed by Sir R. Peel, it was withdrawn.

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE.—Lord DUNCAN commenced the adjourned debate by a speech in support of the Government.—Mr. ALDERMAN THOMPSON opposed the principle of free trade in corn.—The other speakers were Sir W. Molesworth, Mr. H. Berkeley, Mr. T. Duncombe, Lord Alfred Paget, and Mr. B. Baring, in support of the measure; and Mr. Benett, Mr. Tollemache, and Sir T. D. Acland, against it.—The debate was again adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

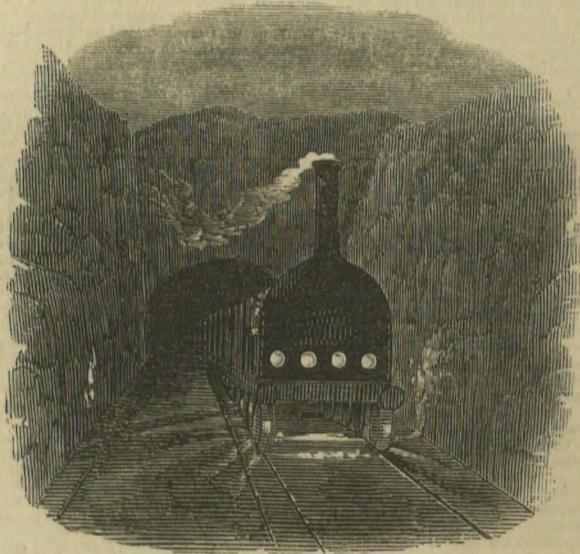
The House sat only for about half an hour, and the business done consisted only of the presentation of petitions.



FORSYTH'S PATENT RAILWAY SIGNALS.

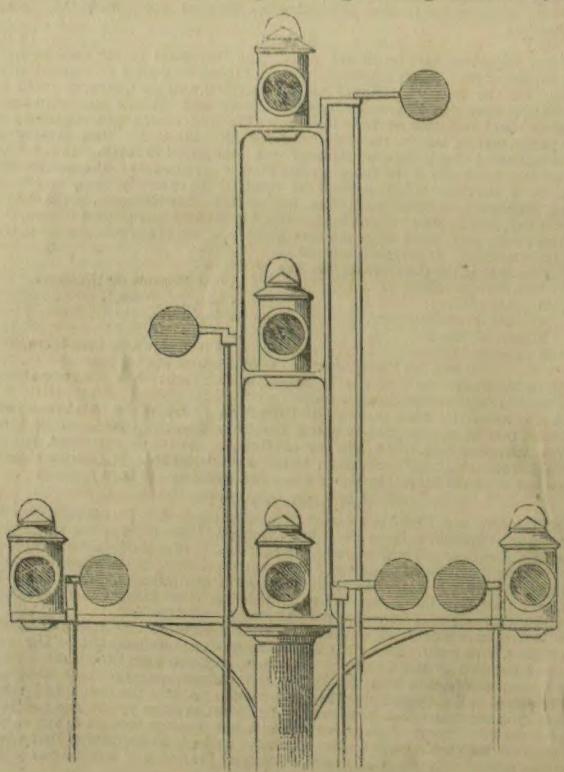
FORSYTH'S PATENT RAILWAY SIGNALS.

The frequent recurrence of serious accidents on railways renders the necessity for improved methods of signals more and more painfully evident. Several plans have been proposed within the last few months; but they mostly lack the simplicity requisite for their application in cases of danger; or the object cannot be accomplished without interfering with other operations connected with the efficient working of the trains. We have, however, to record another plan, which combines simplicity with efficiency.



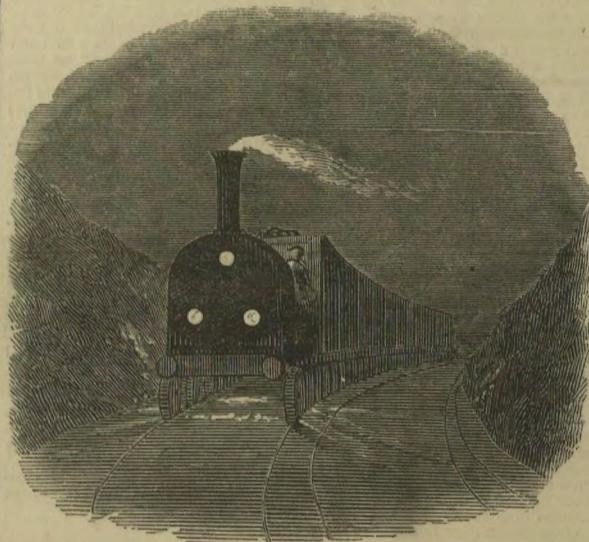
SIGNAL DIAGRAM.

Mr. Forsyth, of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway Company, has lately made some experiments on the Liverpool and Manchester Line, to prove the comparative value of coloured lights for signal purposes; and purposes only to use the red light in cases of danger. He suggests that each engine should carry a different *diagram* of lights; and, by a signal post, with lamps arranged as shown in our Engraving, should make corresponding signals, to be done by closing one or more of the lamps. Thus, the engine-driver knowing what diagram of lights he carries, and



SIGNAL LAMPPOST.

seeing a corresponding signal at the station, would conclude it to be especially intended for his guidance; whilst persons at the station would be apprised of the particular train which is coming. We have shown in the Engravings three of the different forms in which the lights will be arranged.



SIGNAL DIAGRAM.

This new system of signals has been secured by patent; and, we are persuaded, will be extensively adopted.

CHURCHES OF THE METROPOLIS.

ST. ANNE'S, LIMEHOUSE.

The first stone of this noble parish Church (one of the fifty churches ordered to be built in the reign of Queen Anne), was laid in the year 1712; and the building was completed in 1724, at a cost of £35,000, which was raised by a tax on coals, in the Port of London, generally. The Church stands not far from the banks of the Thames, as the reader may perceive on reference to the large Panoramic Picture (No. 210 in the plan), prefixed to vol. 5 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

The architect of this Church was Nicholas Hawksmoor, who executed many buildings of note in the early part of the last century, and at the age of seventeen became the pupil of Sir Christopher Wren: he was an honour to his master, for many of Hawksmoor's designs have been attributed to Wren himself. Hawksmoor's finest work is St. George's, Bloomsbury (Engraved in No. 104 of our Journal); this is one of the most original, picturesque, and graceful steeples in the metropolis. St. Anne's, Limehouse, is an inferior work, but it deserves much more praise than has fallen to its share. "With much that is incorrect," says a judicious critic, "and very little that is positively beautiful, its *ensemble* has an air of grandeur very frequently missed where it seems to have been more studiously aimed at." The main feature of the design is the fine tower, terminating in four angular turrets, with a more lofty one in the centre. These, and portions of the belfry, are original and picturesquely effective. At a height of 130 feet is placed the clock, being the highest in or near the metropolis, not excepting St. Paul's: it was put up by Messrs. Moore, in 1839: it is a splendid piece of mechanism, with four faces, each 18 feet in diameter: the hours are struck on the great bell (38 cwt.), which bears the following inscription:—

At proper times, my voice I'll raise,
And sound to my subscribers' praise.

There are only two bells in the tower.

The interior has a fine organ, built by Richard Bridge, in 1741. Here is, also, a painted window, by Backler, of "The Sermon on the Mount."

The parish of St Anne was formerly a part of the ancient parish of Stepney, and was separated from it in 1729.

The present venerable Rector of the parish (nearly 100!) is the Rev. J. Radcliffe; Perpetual Curate, Rev. R. Rawlings; Assistant Curate, Rev. J. Hillmer.

Limehouse is a healthy parish; the mortality being less than in seventy-two districts of the metropolis, and less than the average of the metropolitan districts.

MR. GALLY KNIGHT.

In our Obituary of last week we recorded the death of this accomplished archaeologist. We annex a Portrait of Mr. Knight, in travelling costume, from a private plate, engraved many years since. As a pendant, we quote the following from the *Athenaeum*—

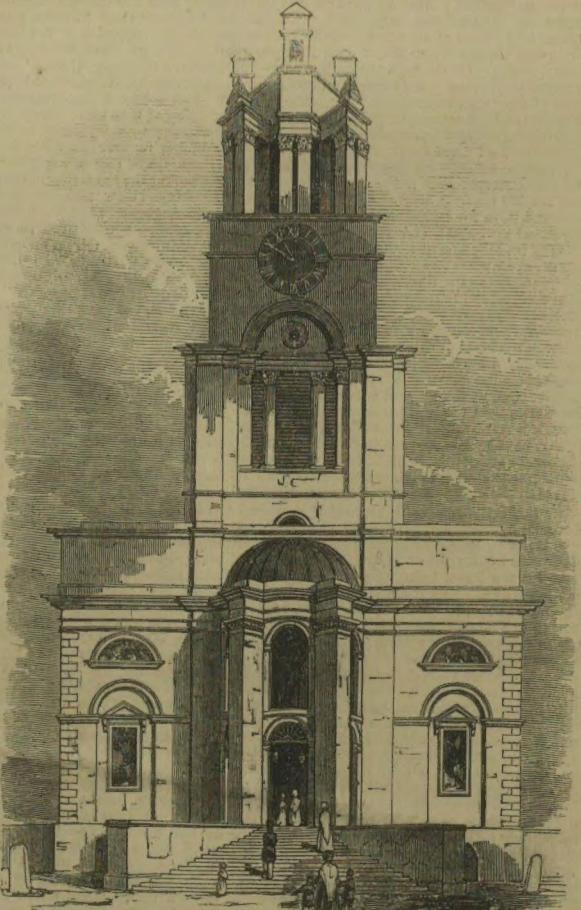
"Mr. Henry Gally Knight was educated at Eton, where he had Mr. Milman, the poet and historian, for one of his schoolfellows. From thence he was moved, if we remember rightly, to Trinity College, Cambridge, a little before Lord Byron was admitted of Trinity from the school at Harrow. Smit with the thirst of travel, he visited in 1810-11, in company with the Hon. Frederick North and Mr. Fazakerley, the most interesting provinces of the Turkish Empire. Here he would appear to have renewed his acquaintance with Lord Byron; and, warmed with the spirit of the poet of 'Childe Harold,' conceived a series of Eastern tales, illustrative of the manners and customs of the countries he had travelled through. Mr. Murray transmuted the manuscript of one of the tales to Lord Byron for his opinion, without, however, communicating the name of the author. 'There are many beautiful passages in the tale you sent me,' Lord Byron writes in reply, 'and an interesting story. It must have been written by some one who had been on the spot, and I wish him, and he deserves, success.' Speaking of the Eastern tales in question, in a letter to Mr. Moore, Lord Byron writes: 'He (Mr. Gally Knight) sent to me last summer, and I advised him to write one in each measure, without any intention at that time of doing the same thing. Since that, from a habit of writing in a fever, I have anticipated him in the variety of measures, but quite unintentionally.' These tales—('Ilderim,' in four cantos; 'Phrosyne,' a Grecian tale; and 'Alashtar,' an Arabian tale)—do not appear to have attracted any very great attention at the time. Lord Byron played upon 'Ilderim,' in verses to his friend like these—

I read the 'Christabel,'
Very well;
I read the 'Missionary,'
Pretty—very;
tried at 'Ilderim,'
Ahem!



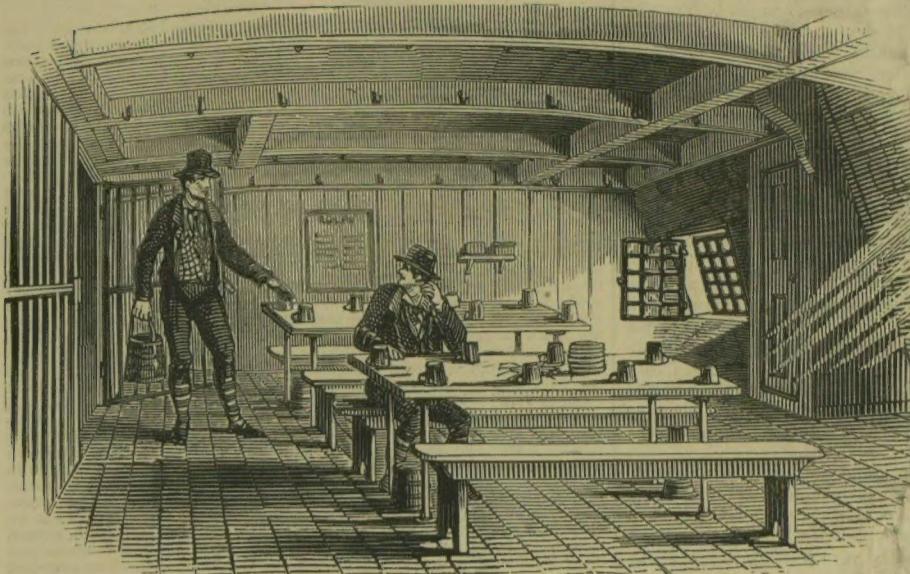
MR. GALLY KNIGHT, M.P. IN TRAVELLING COSTUME.

As his circle of friends increased, curiosity carried his tales (his new Persian Tales, as they were called) into a fourth edition—and many years after 'Ilderim' had been 'Ahem'd' by Byron, he published a dramatic poem called 'Hannibal in Bithynia,' conceived, he tells us, at Brusa, many years back, and only of late remodelled and retouched. He could not, however, disguise from himself that he had failed in achieving a reputation as a poet, and foreseeing the future fate of 'Ilderim' and 'Alashtar' (feeble attempts in the manner and measure of Byron,) he dropped the poet, and turned his attention to the study and origin of our Medieval Architecture. In 1831, he began his tour in Normandy. Resolving not merely to trust his own judgment, he engaged an architect by profession (Mr. Richard Hussey) to be his companion in the tour, 'that he might have,' to use his own words, 'the assistance of a practised eye to examine the construction of the buildings, and a practised hand to delineate their outline.' He published, on his return, a small octavo volume, with plates, called 'An Architectural Tour in Normandy,' exhibiting a conscientious and diligent endeavour to arrive at the truth, and considerable nicety of observation. His next work was 'The Normans in Sicily,' a kind of sequel to his 'Architectural Tour in Normandy,'—a valuable work, for here he had again his architect by his side, sparing no expense to arrive at truth. His next great work—and, unhappily, it has proved his last—was his 'Ecclesiastical Architecture of Italy, from the time of Constantine to the Fifteenth Century,' accompanied by a clever introduction (the work on which his fame will rest), and eighty-one lithochromatic plates, by Mr. Owen Jones.



ST. ANNE'S, LIMEHOUSE.

THE CONVICT SYSTEM.—ECONOMY OF THE HULKS.



CONVICT WARD.

The subject of Prison Discipline, but more especially of Secondary Punishment, is now occupying so large a share of the attention of the benevolent and humane, that we purpose to illustrate in our pages the general subject of Transportation, in the hope of fixing, by our graphic details, the attention of the reader upon the economy of this penal system. We commence with that branch of Secondary Punishment known in England as "the Hulks," and contemplated merely as an intermediate establishment between the common gaols and the penal colonies, for prisoners sentenced to transportation; though, in fact, in many cases, they prove a substitute for that punishment.

Hulks, (Hulk, Dutch; *Aulc*, Saxon, the body of a ship,) used as places of confinement and punishment for offences; corresponds with the *galea* of the Italians, the *galère* of the French, and our own English word *galley*.

The plan of confining offenders on board hulks was first adopted in England in 1776; but so early was their management abused, that in 1778, it was inquiry into by Parliament; and in 1785, reported to have singularly improved the practice of villainy. And, although several minor improvements have been made, from time to time, in the discipline pursued on board the hulks, we are led to conclude, from the various evidence given before Parliament on the subject, that no material change has been effected in the system.

The stations at which hulks are maintained in England are Portsmouth, Gosport, Devonport, Chatham, Woolwich, and Deptford. We have selected the *Warrior* convict-hulk, stationed at Woolwich, as a fair specimen of the several vessels; and the large centre Engraving shows it to be not altogether an un-picturesque river-side object.

There are in this ship three decks, or floors, called the upper, middle, and lower decks. They communicate by two large openings at the centre and in the foremost end; and, as these openings in each deck are placed above those in the deck below, they form a kind of tube, reaching from the hold to the atmosphere above.

The main hatchways are all 4 feet 8 inches square. The fore-hatchway, upper deck, 4 feet 6 inches by 3 feet 6 inches. Middle deck, 4 feet 6 inches by 3 feet 6 inches. Lower Deck, 4 feet 9 inches by 4 feet 8 inches. The upper and middle decks also open into the chapel, at the after end of the passages; this chapel being 42 feet wide, 39 feet long, and 14 feet high.—(See the Engraving.)

The habitable part of the upper deck is 84 feet long by 38 feet 6 inches wide; and is divided into two lateral portions by a central passage; the inner boundary being a partition, consisting of iron bars reaching the full height of the deck. These are also called *Galleries*; and we have engraved one line of them. Each ward is subdivided by three transverse bulkheads of wood, forming eight classes, but not crossing the passage.

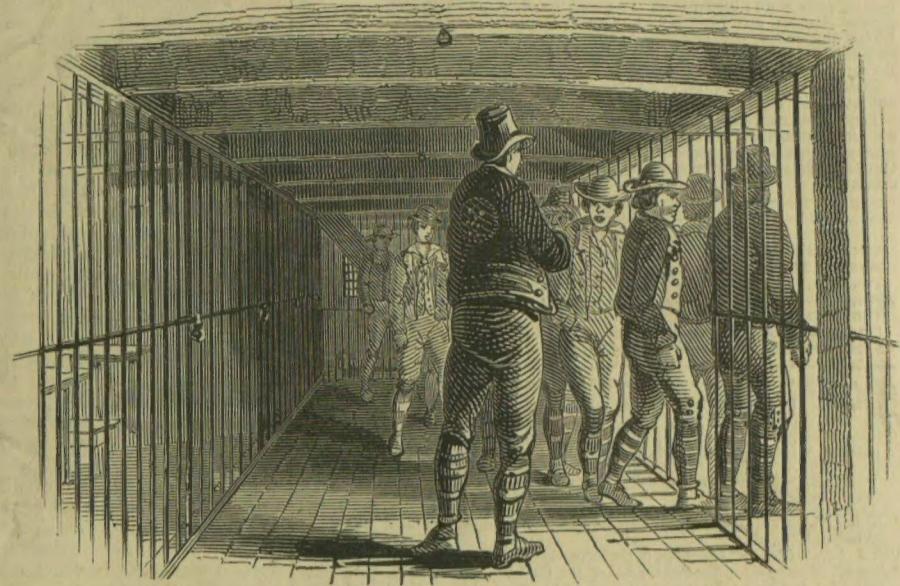
Near the bow of the vessel are two small rooms appropriated to the sick, and an open space for the ladder and hatchways. There are four ports in this space that ventilate the passage. There is a room in the after end of each ward, called the guards' galley, in which fires are kept till nine in the evening. These also adjoin the chapel.

The prison on the middle deck is 79 feet 6 inches long, by 45 feet wide. There are seven ports on each side, four bulkheads, and, in all, ten classes; and the dividing passage opens into the chapel. Two small rooms are set apart as workshops; they have two ports, and four large hawse-holes, and open into the space forward. The clear space for the ladder and hatchways is 19 feet 6 inches.

On the lower deck, the prison is 115 feet 6 inches long, by 43 feet 6 inches wide; number of ports, fifteen on each side, varying in size, and all smaller than the ports above. The bulk-heads are six, forming fourteen classes. Width of the passage, six feet. The space left forward is twelve feet, with four hawse-holes opening into it. From the after bulk-head to the stern-ports, is a space occupied by the dark cells and store-rooms, leaving the passage free.

The floating prison is rated to hold 600 men. Of these 124 are disposed on the top deck; 192 on the middle deck; 284 on the lower deck; and this is effected without crowding.

Beneath the lower deck is the hold, a large, and almost unoccupied space, divided into store-rooms, divided by a passage. The openings from the hold are—



GALLERY.

1. The Main-hatch. 2. The Fore-scuttle. 3. The After-scuttle. 4. A small scuttle in one of the classes.

The discipline and employment of the Convicts may be thus briefly detailed—

On board each hulk, a book is kept by the Overseer, in which are entered the names of all convicts; and, on the first Sunday of every quarter, they are mustered, and the character of each convict, for the previous three months, is marked against his name, as follows:—*v. g.* very good; *g.* good; *in.* indifferent; *b.* bad; *v. b.* very bad.

The convicts, after they are classed, are kept in separate compartments on board the ship, and are not allowed to mix with any other class than that to which they belong, after the hours of daily labour. Every prisoner is required to serve two years certain as a period of punishment without any reserve earnings, and after that time is eligible to commence a period of probation, which invariably commences when the prisoner has mustered eight times, i.e., two years, either good, or very good. This and his subsequent character determine the

to convicts who have passed two years of their sentence, and not misconducted themselves.

In cases of convicts' misbehaviour, mild and persuasive means of correction are first tried; if such fail, the punishments are reduction of allowance of provisions, or confinement in a dark cell with no other food than bread and water, for not more than seven days; or by mulcting earnings; or moderate whipping, which, in any case, is not allowed to exceed twenty-four stripes.

The overseer or officer in command is required to make a minute in the occurrence-book of the name of the convict, the name of the complainant, the nature of the crime, and the punishment inflicted. No convict is allowed to go without an iron upon one or both legs; and those employed on board are locked up and clothed in the same manner as those employed in the yards. An overseer is required to be on the watch all night in the dormitories. Chaplains are appointed in connection with the different vessels, who are required, besides reading prayers and preaching on the Sabbath and the holidays of the Established Church, to attend to the religious wants of the prisoners individually, to distribute

according to their discretion the books or tracts provided for the use of the prisoners, and to take a general superintendence of the schools for their instruction. A surgeon is employed in connection with the vessels, who is required to attend to the health of the convicts, inspect their provisions occasionally, and see that the wards are properly ventilated. The employments of the convicts consist of shipbuilding and painting, carrying timber for this purpose, in removing chain-moorings, in cleansing the rivers on which they are employed, and in different descriptions of hard labour, and a limited number in keeping the vessels clean, preparing the food of the convicts generally, and making and repairing their clothes. Their periods of labour are from eight to nine hours and a half hour daily, according to the seasons of the year.

The total expense per man in the hulks in England is £18 12s. 1d. The average value of labour per man is estimated at £10 18s. 9d., making the average annual expense per man £7 14s. 2d. The total cost per boy in the hulks is £13 5s. 6d. The value of the labour performed by the prisoners in the hulks of Bermuda is so great as to leave an estimated annual profit for each of £13 3s. 6d.

If to these details, we add the following "Daily Routine" on board the *Warrior*, the reader may form a tolerably correct idea of the Economy of the Hulks:—

5 A.M. "All Hands" are called by the officers on watch; sufficient time being allowed to dress, and lash hammocks; the wards are then unlocked, and prisoners passed under the forecastle, in regulated numbers, to wash—troughs being there permanently fixed, and supplied with fresh water for that purpose. They then re-enter their respective wards, and return with their hammocks, which are stowed in appropriate places, ranged along side the main deck, and constructed so as to admit of free ventilation. Breakfast is now served, under the immediate superintendence of the steward and officers, and the empty vessels returned to the galley, and washed by two prisoners, appointed as "Inspectors" of Weights and Provisions for the day. A thorough cleansing of the ship, including decks, poop, and forecastle next takes place, at which prisoners continue employed until

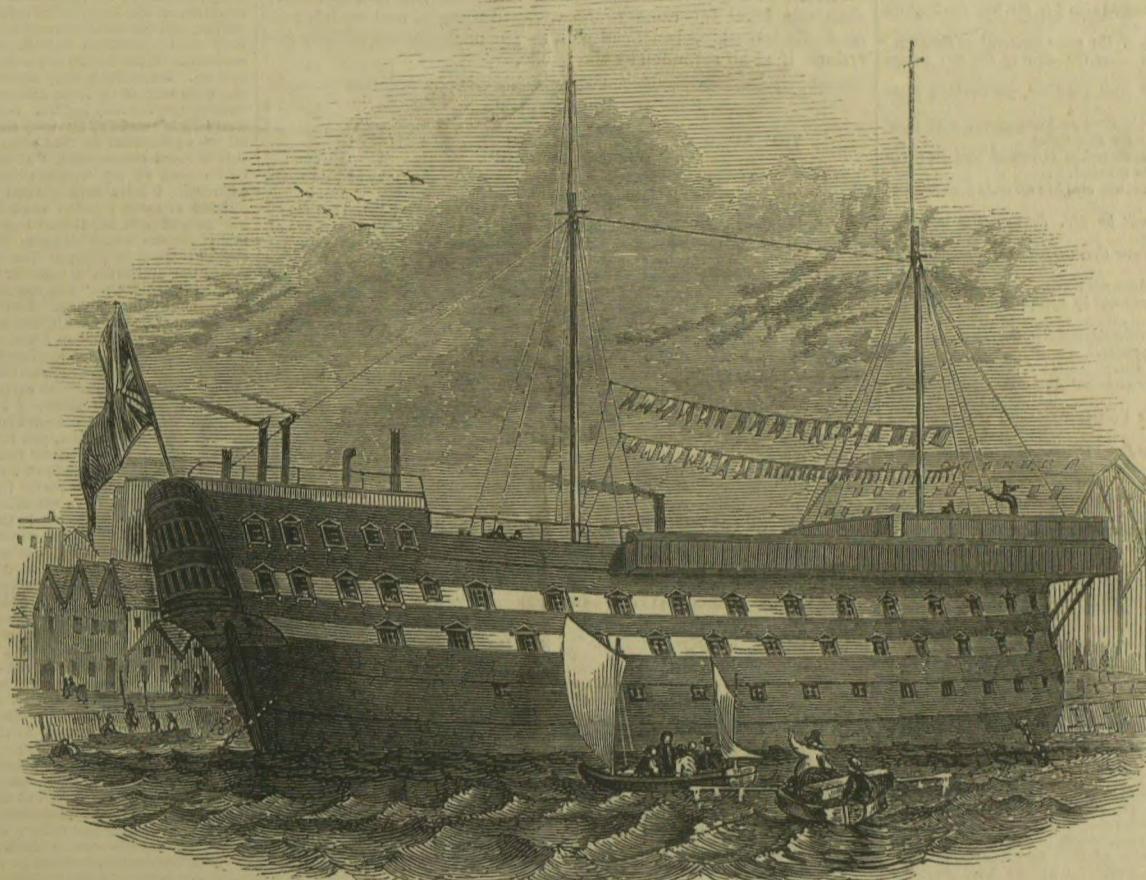
7 30 A.M. "When a general muster is taken, and "All Hands" are summoned to labour in Dockyard, at the various duties assigned them, in divisions, each superintended by a guard connected with the establishment, who is responsible for their conduct and safety when on shore.

Noon. Prisoners return on board to dinner, being allowed one hour: a portion of which time is daily devoted to a minute examination of bedding and clothing, under the inspection of officers alternately appointed.

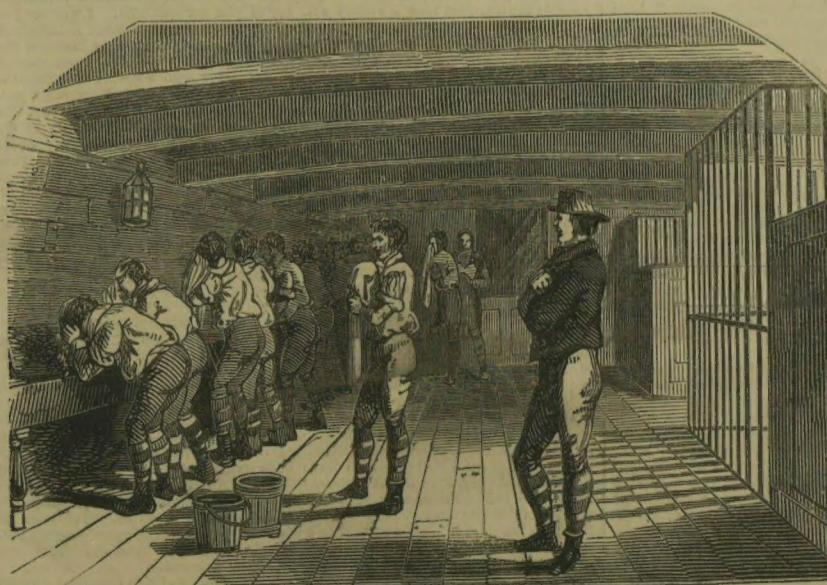
1 P.M. Dockyard duties are again resumed, and continued until

5 30 P.M. When the labours on shore close for the day, and prisoners are received on board; washed; and mustered, to ascertain that "All is Right."

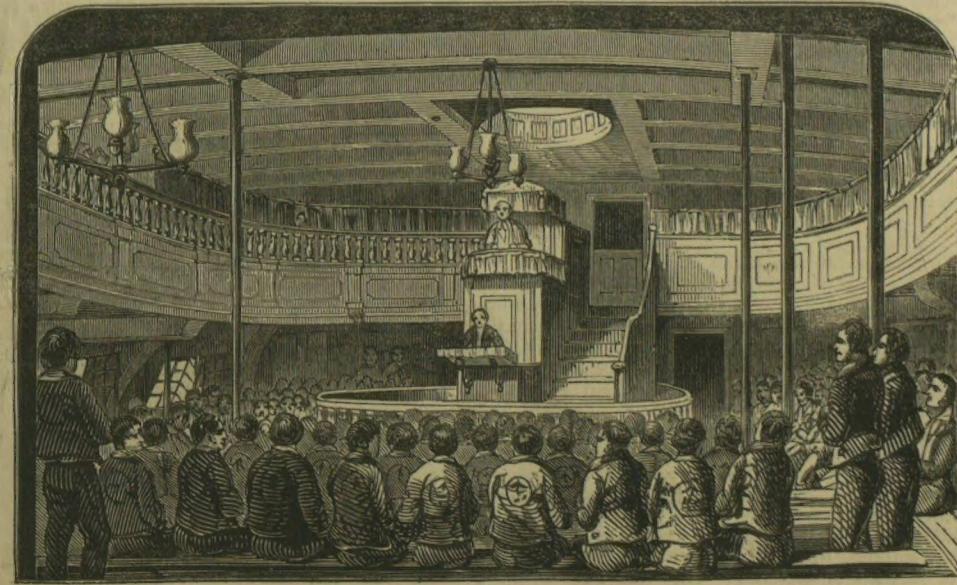
Suppers are forthwith served; at the conclusion of which the men are again employed cleaning the interior of the ship, and the various utensils used by them during the day, until



"THE WARRIOR," CONVICT-HULK, WOOLWICH.



WASHING-ROOM.



THE CHAPEL.

8 P.M. At which hour their duties finally close; hammocks are handed into wards, and unshashed; master is again taken; and "All Hands" retire to rest.

9 P.M. An appointed officer visits the decks, examines the lights, bolts, and locks of each ward; interrogates the guard on duty as to the observance of general silence; and reports "all safe and secure" to "Officer in Command." Should any prisoner complain of indisposition previous to mustering for labour, he is retained on board, and ordered to the "Sick Ward," awaiting the arrival of the surgeon, who daily visits the ship.

Divine service is performed in the Chapel every sabbath; and evening prayers are read every Thursday by the Chaplain.

Prayers and portions of Scripture are also read in the respective Wards daily during the week; and a schoolmaster is appointed to instruct those prisoners who cannot read, every Monday and Friday evening. They are visited by the Chaplain, who notes the progress each prisoner makes in reading, spelling, and catechism.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Feb. 22.—Quinquagesima (Shroo) Sunday.

MONDAY, 23.—Sir Joshua Reynolds died, 1792.

TUESDAY, 24.—Shrove Tuesday—St. Matthias.

WEDNESDAY, 25.—Ash Wednesday—The first day in Lent.

THURSDAY, 26.—J. P. Kemble died, 1823.

FRIDAY, 27.—Day increased 10h. 42m.

SATURDAY, 28.—Mars sets at 11h. 45m. p.m.

HIGH WATER at London-bridge, for the Week ending February 28.

Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.						
M. h. m. 11 22	A. h. m. 0 0	M. h. m. 0 25	A. h. m. 0 56	M. h. m. 1 22	A. h. m. 1 47	M. h. m. 1 11	A. h. m. 2 34	M. h. m. 2 57	A. h. m. 3 19	M. h. m. 3 40	A. h. m. 4 1

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. R. W." Cambridge.—The Series of Illustrations has not been altogether abandoned.

"J. S. L." Bristol, will be entitled to the large View of Dublin.

"Lector" Macclesfield.—The stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds, (certain lands in Bucks), is a nominal Government office, by accepting which a Member of Parliament vacates his seat. We have more than once explained this official fiction; so that our Correspondent must be Lector Lensus.

"H. H. D."—The charge for our Journal is 26s. per annum, if paid in advance.

"Q. Y."—A Tailor at the West End of the Town is, doubtless, the best authority on the liveries of our day.

"C. W. C." has been replied to by post.

"M. N." Bradford, should read closely the newspapers of the day, or the Memoirs of Popular Portraits in the "Illustrated London News," to obtain information respecting "the leading men of the day."

"J. H. P." Brentwood.—Declined.

"Fanny" and "Scipio."—The price of a Marriage License is £5 5s.

"Us Eludent Francais" Glasgow, should address a note to Messrs. Nutt and Co., Foreign Booksellers, Fleet-street.

"C. Z." Hoxton.—The lines will not suit.

"R. F."—In the order of the day for the Metals, Gold is first; then, silver, platinum, iron, &c. Gold has been drawn into a wire 1-4600th of an inch in diameter.

"G. D." Ventnor.—The advertisement in question announces a new periodical. St. Laurence Church, Ventnor, has been enlarged to 30ft. by 12ft.

"Aboukir," Norwich, is thanked.

"Adolescents" is recommended to consult a work on "The Fossil Fuel of Great Britain" or the article "Coal" in any late Cyclopaedia.

"J. R." City.—Divinity.

"C. P." Congleton.—"Dodd's Parliamentary Companion" is the best work of its class.

"Lady E. P."—Berthes are just as much worn, of the same material as the dress. One piano-forte manufacturer is just as good as the other of the two names specified.

"Inquisitor."—We cannot undertake to answer legal questions, particularly those relating to Railways.

"A. W.—A Subscriber," London.—Lists of all the Foreign Newspapers, with their circulation, may be had of Messrs. Cowie, near the Post Office.

The Correspondent who has sent us a letter from Brazil, is informed that we never publish any news, without knowing from whom it comes.

"G. T." Exeter, is thanked; but, most of the article sent has already appeared in our columns.

"Margaret."—The Reform Club-house was built by Mr. Barry: it is a clever adaptation from the Farnese Palace, at Rome.

"M. Saul."—The old print shall be returned, if our Correspondent will send his full address.

"No Astronomer," Romsey.—Thanks; but, we have not room.

"O. P."—The legality of the charge may be ascertained by application at the General Post Office.

"A Lady-Lover of Antiquities."—The British Archaeological Association meet at the Western Institution, Princes-street, Leicester-square.

"Coblets."—Haydon's Lectures on Painting," 14s.

"A Regular Subscriber" is referred to the Astronomical Maps, &c., published by the Useful Knowledge Society.

"Columbus," Gateshead, will find the Valentine Custom explained in "Sharpe's London Magazine" for the present month.

"A Fantastical Duke."—We really have not time for such antiquarian searches as replies to our Correspondent would occupy.

"R. T. M." Belfast.—Fortune on the Funds.

"Enthusiasta."—Mr. Moore, the poet, resides at Sloperton Cottage, Wiltshire.

"Exeter."—Only in particular cases.

"Hoddesdon."—The Art-Union does not receive paintings for exhibition.

"A Subscriber," Liverpool.—A bill falling due on a Sunday is presented for payment on Saturday.

"A Widow" Welshpool, is recommended to apply to an Army Agent.

"H. A." Liverpool.—We cannot answer for the promises.

"E. R. S." Lyne Regis.—Ghent is pronounced, on the Continent, like the plural gants (gloves), having furnished a curious double entendre, by its pronunciation in this sense, for one of the revolutionary songs of France.

"W. W." will find the title "Esquire" explained in our last volume.

"Alki."—Messrs. Jones and Co., Opticians, reside nearly opposite Furnival's Inn, Holborn.

"Chev."—The Niagara story is a "Jonathan."

"B. Y." Beds.—We are not in possession of the names, or would oblige our Correspondent.

"A Subscriber."—Comme le vent—like the wind.

We have not room for the "Lines to C. D."

"A. G."—An ill-natured report has been in circulation respecting the affairs of Moses and Son. We are assured that there is not the slightest foundation for the statement, and that the concern is in a prosperous condition.

"R. A. K. B."—Bourn's Treatise on Engineering, lately published.

"A Two Years' Subscriber."—The best translation of Ovid into English verse is "Ovid's Metamorphosis, in Fifteen Books, translated by the Most Eminent Hands," London, 1717, folio; of which there have been many reprints. We have not space to enumerate the Works of Thomas Hobbes.

"A Constant Reader," Shaftesbury, may obtain the "South Australian Journal" of Simmonds and Cloves, Colonial Agents, Cornhill.

"J. C." Coleraine, should write to the Money Order Office.

"A Constant Subscriber," Lynn.—"The Cyclopaedia of Practical Receipts" is published by Mr. Churchill, Princes-street, Soho.

"Peveril" is correct in his surmise.

"M. A."—Anon.

"H. G." Exeter.—The Festival of St. Valentine originated in the ancient Roman feast in honour of Juno, when the names of young women were put into a box, from which they were drawn by the men, as chance directed. The custom of choosing Valentines was a sport in the houses of the English gentry as early as the year 1476.

"A. Z."—We have not room for the Warwick Legend. "The Man of Feeling" is by William Mackenzie.

"Philomath."—The author of "The Sexagenarian" was the Rev. Mr. Beloe, a prebendary of St. Paul's, &c.; published in 1818.

"J. C." New Road, and "A Constant Subscriber," Worthing, may best obtain the information by writing to the Secretaries of the Railway Companies.

"W. J." St. Leonard's.—One of Inskip's masterly pictures will be engraved, probably, in our next.

INELIGIBLE.—Song of the Shepherdess.

[From the pressure of important news, we are compelled to defer Answers to many Correspondents till next week.]

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1846.

THE advocates of a moral improvement find it difficult enough to advance it when they are met simply by the indifference of the mass of the public to anything that does not immediately touch their interests; that difficulty is increased during periods of great excitement upon some social and material question, which through years of violent agitation has not only created strong parties for and against it, but has brought those parties themselves to a crisis. Nearly all the energy which we have to bestow on public affairs is then absorbed by the great topic of the day; we then attend to nothing else; no voice that speaks of anything but the engrossing subject of discourse can be made audible through the noise of the tempest; if it does pierce through it at intervals, it is weak and faint, and runs great risk of not being listened to. Society is often afflicted with the malady described by Falstaff, as the disease of not marking, when the subject matter of the lesson is the reverse of pleasant or flattering. The "old Lord of the Council," who

spake very wisely—and in the street too," was but a type of all public advisers, who lecture society on its short comings and wrong doings; "he spake very wisely yet I regarded him not;" the following of good advice seems as much beyond the strength of the community at large, as of the fat knight in whom Shakspeare has embodied so many general failings.

But the conscience of the most hardened is liable to some compunctions visitings, and by dint of continual reiteration, and the somewhat terrible exhibitions we have had of the consequences of neglect, society is beginning to awaken to the necessity of dealing with that mass of youthful ignorance and destitution which is always hovering on the threshold of the prison, with no hand to lead it away from the fatal vicinity, but many ready to drive or seduce it within the portals of crime, from whence once passed there is no returning. In a great city like London—we should rather call it a nation, for it is rapidly growing into one—there will always be an immense amount of poverty, and with it ignorance; no arrangements that can be made will remove these human evils. But that is not a reason why we should make no effort to lessen them; it is folly to ignore their existence, and shut our eyes to their results. If we wished to do so, they will not suffer it; they will intrude their ghastly presence into the midst of prosperity and splendour. They are unwelcome and repulsive guests, but they come, and as they cannot be crushed, must be dealt with in another manner.

From several, and from distinct authorities, we have recently heard frequent complaints of the want of some means of arresting juvenile crimes, that should not place it on the same level, or confound it with old and hardened depravity. The police-offices abound with cases, in which it would be very possible to rescue the criminal at the first step upon the downward path; but, at present there is nothing provided for, save the punishment that, in nine cases out of ten, turns the offender loose on society with all that was bad in him confirmed and sharpened, and the little good that might have existed utterly destroyed. The few attempts that have been made have answered sufficiently to warrant their being multiplied and extended. But, unfortunately, the qualification for admission to the few reformatory establishments we possess, must be the perpetration of actual crime. Thus, in the prison at Parkhurst, only those boys are received who have undergone sentence of transportation. For minor offenders there is nothing but the common gaol—in which no reformation is to be expected, no teaching, save that of greater expertise in crime is possible. A defect in our arrangements on this subject manifestly exists and should be supplied as soon as possible. We are glad to see some prospect of this being done; attention has at least been drawn to the question, and this, at such a time as the present, is no small advantage gained. The City authorities, the Bishop of London, and more than one legal functionary are engaged upon it, and we have no doubt something beneficial will be the consequence of their exertions, if at all seconded by the public.

POSTSCRIPT.

THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE AND THE ELECTORS OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

The following remarkable letter has been addressed by the Duke of Newcastle to the inhabitants of South Nottinghamshire:—

Chamber, Feb. 17, 1846.

"Gentlemen.—In addressing you on the present occasion, I am quite aware of the unusualness of the proceeding. For the last ten days I have noticed what has been passing in our country with indescribable pain and annoyance. It seems to me that the time has more than arrived when a period ought to be put to the discord which now agitates us. I deeply lament that any member of my family should be the cause of this most unnecessary agitation. I have most deeply to lament it for still more serious reasons than because it creates odious quarrels, feverish convulsions, expense, and extreme inconvenience among yourselves.

"Lord Lincoln has been the deluded victim of bad counsel, and in no instance more conspicuously than in the course which he has pursued upon the present occasion.

"Under this influence he has been induced to accept an inferior office, that his seat may be vacated, and a desperate experiment attempted. He suddenly appeared among you before you could be aware of the transaction. He does this, as he tells you, that he may make an appeal from the Protection meeting to the whole constituency. By this surprise he has been enabled to ascertain the undisguised and almost universal feelings and opinions of this important county.

"Doubtless it was expected that the constituency would be found to possess easy consciences, and that the public voice would be raised in favour of Free Trade, and the other newly disclosed enormities of Sir Robert Peel's Government, although we have neither asked for nor desire Free Trade nor any other vicious and revolutionary system. But why should any one from authority be sent as a Government emissary to force upon us opinions which we hate, and the country hates and deprecates with indignant hostility—and why should any one fortified with Government means, presume to operate the disgraceful seductions which are said to be used upon this lamentable occasion—and why are you to be drilled into the adoption of the ruinous principles and fatal doctrines at which you now naturally shudder and recoil? Our worthy farmers are sturdy and clear-sighted, and your phalanx is not to be broken by bold axioms, artful assertions, or any other evil appliances.

"Still, however, the move has been made; and although we may justly condemn it as a very great mistake, there may be some shadow of pretence for it, if it were intended by the experiment to test the public opinion. Now, however, that it has been in a course of most diligent trial for ten days, that the fullest proof has been elicited, and the result known to be totally adverse to the new doctrines, and unsuccessful to the deceived advocate of them, in the sincerity of my heart, and as a member of the constituency, I suggest to Lord Lincoln the propriety of withdrawing from an useless, and, to all, most painful struggle against a long-tryed and approved principle and policy, and at once to restore tranquillity to the county, and the undisturbed possession of its unquestionable convictions.

"In the anxious hope that this address may meet with your approval, and that the appeal may not be made in vain,

"I remain, Gentlemen,

"Your sincere and faithful servant,

"NEWCASTLE."

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO PARIS.—A letter from Paris of Wednesday, says:—"There can be no longer any doubt of the intended visit of Queen Victoria. Apartments have been prepared for her at the Tuilleries and at Neuilly. At each place she will have a state bed-room, fitted up in the most splendid style. It is said that towards the end of May, or early in June, the Duke and Duchess de Nemours will go to London, and will accompany the Queen to France. Active preparations are going on also at the Hotel de Ville for a banquet and ball on the occasion of her visit.

ELECTION FOR EAST SUFFOLK.—On Thursday, Mr. E. S. Gooch was elected at Ipswich without opposition, for the Eastern Division of Suffolk, in the room of Lord Henneker. Mr. Gooch is a staunch advocate of agricultural protection.

DORSETSHIRE ELECTION.—The election for Dorsetshire, in the room of Lord Ashley and Mr. Sturt, resigned, took place at Dorchester, on Thursday. Lord Ashley declined to contest the representation, and H. K. Seymer, Esq., and John Floyer, Esq., were therefore declared duly elected.

ADOPTION OF THE OVERLAND ROUTE TO INDIA, VIA TRIESTE.—At a meeting of the Syria-Egyptian Society, held on Tuesday evening, a very interesting and important paper was read by Dr. Plate, Foreign Secretary, demonstrating the practicability of forming a continuous railway communication with India, through Germany and Central Turkey, thus bringing the Indian Mail in much less time by many days than is at present occupied in its transmission. Lieutenant Wag-horn, who was present by invitation, briefly stated to the society that her Majesty's Government had that day determined on the route to India, via Trieste.

ACCIDENT ON THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—On Monday morning, an accident of a serious nature occurred on the Great Western Railway, between Box and Middlehill tunnel, by which the lives of several persons were endangered, and one poor fellow was killed. It appears that the up-mail on leaving Bath had an open truck, containing several workmen, attached to the train; and when between Box and Middlehill tunnel, the tire of one of the leading wheels of the truck flew off, which caused such an oscillation, that either, through fear, a number jumped out, or were thrown from the truck by the motion. Neither the engine-driver nor the guards were cognisant of any accident until, entering the tunnel, the echo of the screams of those in the truck alarmed the engine-driver, who instantly stopped the train; and, on going back, it was discovered that nine persons were on the line so seriously injured that it was considered necessary to take them to the hospital at Bath. One of them afterwards died, as above stated. An inquest was held at Box, on Tuesday, on the body of the man who was killed, and a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

LAUNCH OF HER MAJESTY'S STEAM-FRIGATE "SPHYNX."—This steamer was launched on Tuesday, at Woolwich Dockyard, in the presence of Sir Francis Collier, K.C.B., Commodore Superintendent of the establishment; the Marquis of Chandos; the Russian Consul, and several officers of the Russian service; Captain Smith, of the "William and Mary"; the heads of

sometimes, by wearing his shirt outside and over his clothes. Had gone out in that disguise—the disguise was merely for a “lark.” His Lordship, once, when witness was asleep on the sofa, marked his upper lip with a piece of burnt cork, which made him look as if he wore moustachios. Did not wear moustachios—that was a little household affair which nobody else had anything to do with. Thought his Lordship had a right to do what he pleased with him in his own apartments. The putting on disguises was merely a bit of a school-boy lark. Witness was not a boy at the time. Is now thirty-seven years of age. There had been a great chat in the village about him, but that was all humbug—people in the country places would chatter. They would chat about him (the Attorney-General) if he lived there.

Mr. Justice Wightman here cautioned the witness to be more circumspect in the manner of giving his evidence.

If they said he was in the habit of being intoxicated, they said that which was not true. Was not dismissed from his ministry. Had been to Chartley Castle since he left.

On the second day, the witnesses examined were Mr. and Mrs. Smith, the parents of the plaintiff, and Ann, a younger daughter, about thirteen years of age. The scope of their evidence was to identify the letters as in the handwriting of the noble defendant, and to endeavour to prove, by a variety of circumstances, the matters to which they bore reference.

The case was resumed on Tuesday (the third day), when further evidence was given on the subject of the letters; and the case on the part of the plaintiff was closed.

The Attorney-General then addressed the Jury on the part of the defendant. The learned counsel said: It now became his duty to address the Jury on the part of the defendant in this most extraordinary case—the most extraordinary that had ever occurred within his experience, and which would require at their hands the most patient and careful attention. What had at present passed must, in a great degree, have been altogether unintelligible to them, and wrapt in complete mystery, and some of the facts which he had elicited on the cross-examination of the plaintiff's witnesses might have appeared to the Jury as adverse to the case of his client. But he would promise them that, if they would only restrain their curiosity for a short period, he would explain everything to their entire satisfaction. He would clear up every doubt and difficulty. Although the path was now entangled, he would presently give them a clear and distinct view of all the circumstances of this most extraordinary case, and he would leave no question as to the determination to which they ought to come. He (the Attorney-General) might have excused a love-sick young girl, in the first instance dreaming of an affection that never existed, and afterwards endeavouring to turn her day dreams into realities. But the plaintiff had been led from one false step to another. She had gone on from falsehood to falsehood, until she at length found it quite impossible to extricate herself from the dilemma in which she was placed. What would be said of the defendant if it were true that, after engaging the affections of an innocent girl, he had denied that any attachment had ever existed between them, and had used the very tokens of her affection which she had forwarded to him as a means of fastening upon her a charge of fraud and forgery? That painful alternative was one to which they would be reduced in deciding on the question before them. His learned friend (the Solicitor-General), in advertizing to the defence which he said he understood was intended to be set up, had called their attention to the age of the plaintiff, and asked whether they could believe, for one moment, that so young a girl could have been enabled, even if wicked enough to do so, to have concocted the scheme she was charged with, or had sufficient ingenuity to have carried it out? And he asked, too, what motive could have induced her to act in such a manner? He (the Attorney-General) would tell the Jury that the annals of that Court contained some of the most curious pages of the history of the human race, and from those pages cases might be quoted which might tend to prove that even such an infamous scheme as that which he charged against the plaintiff might have been concocted even by a young girl of her tender age. After citing some curious instances of false testimony, the Attorney-General said he would divide that case into two distinct parts or periods, and would carefully keep one from the other. He would, in the first instance, refer to the period when Earl Ferrers was a pupil of Mr. Achery, at Austrey. His Lordship went there in February, 1839, and remained until June, 1840. He was then seventeen, and the plaintiff fourteen; and it was said that, at that period, the heart of the boy had been warmed by the budding charms of the child—that when they were at church his eyes never wandered from the pew in which she sat—that he wrote to her then certain papers, which had since unfortunately been destroyed. After commenting on this part of the evidence, the learned Counsel said that from that period until he became of age, and soon afterwards married—as he alleged, and as he hoped the Jury would conclude—there had been no intercourse of any kind between him and the plaintiff, and even if there had been any attachment for her on his part, but which he (the hon. and learned gentleman) did not believe, it had long since ceased. On the 23rd of July, 1844, he married the daughter of Lord Edward Chichester, at which time he had no idea that any other woman in the world had any claim whatever upon his affections. On the 7th of August, 1844, he stated he received a letter from the plaintiff's attorney, in which he was informed, for the first time, that he had broken an engagement he had entered into with her, and threatening proceedings against him for a breach of that promise. He never having seen her since he left Austrey, thought that if there was any ground whatever for such a complaint, it must have been founded on something that took place while he was there. His counsel had advised him to plead infancy in bar to the action, they not knowing what might have passed between a boy of seventeen and a girl of fifteen. To that plea the plaintiff rejoined that he had renewed his promise of marriage to her after he came of age, which astonished him, as he had never seen her since that period. The letters produced as having been written by the defendant contained internal evidence of their having been fabricated. The defendant came to London on the 17th of May, 1844, and then first met with his present wife, whom he married in the July following, and it was after he had commenced his acquaintance with her that he was said to have written to the plaintiff's father proposing to marry his daughter, at a time when he was actually making preparations for his marriage with Miss Chichester. The learned counsel next alluded to the evidence of the plaintiff's sister, and said that, with reference to the second interview which she had sworn to have taken place between the plaintiff and the defendant, she had fortunately named the day—the 9th December—for he (the Attorney-General) was in a condition to prove, that on that very day, Earl Ferrers, accompanied by his sister, Mrs. Hanbury Tracey and her husband, started at an early hour in the morning from Chartley Castle, on a visit to Wales. He had now advanced a few steps towards clearing up this dark and mysterious case, and he hoped had satisfied the Jury that the letters that had been produced on the part of the plaintiff had not been written by Earl Ferrers. He would admit that the letters which the plaintiff was stated to have written to the defendant, and which had been posted, had reached their destination—including one containing a handkerchief. After this, the Jury having seen the handkerchief produced by him, would naturally wonder where he got it from—and conclude that there must have been a correspondence between the parties. He would, however, prove that there had been nothing of the kind, and for that purpose would now unravel the mystery in which the whole case had hitherto been enveloped. The Jury would recollect the admission made by Mrs. Smith about her daughter going to a ball at Tamworth, where she said she expected to meet Earl Ferrers, and wearing a white rose in her hair. He (the Attorney-General) would now make a clean breast of it and tell them all about it. (A laugh.) After Earl Ferrers came of age he received several anonymous letters, evidently written by a lady, all in the same hand, breathing sentiments of the most ardent attachment, &c., but as he did not know who his fair correspondent was, he did not take any notice of them—in fact had burnt several of them, but he had fortunately preserved four. The first one was posted at Derby on the 19th December, 1842, and ran thus:—

Dec. 19, 1842.

My Lord—Strange it may seem to you, no doubt, to receive a note from a stranger, and a lady too, but it signifies little to me, as I know very well you never knew the writer of this, never saw her. Now for what I have to tell you, you will be surprised to hear that there is a public ball at Tamworth every Christmas, generally about the 6th or 8th of January. Go! advise you, go; there will, to my knowledge, be a young lady at the ball whom I wish you to see and dance with. She is very beautiful, has dark hair and eyes; in short, she is beauty and grace as a Spaniard, tall and majestic as a Circassian, beautiful as an Italian. I can see no more. You have only to see her to love her—that you must do. She is fit for the bride of a prince. Go, look well round the room. You will find her by this description. She may wear one white rose in her dark hair. Go early; if you see her not there you will never see her, as she is like a violet, hid amongst many leaves, only to be found when sought for. I know she is young, and it is my wish she should have some one to protect her. From what I have heard, you must be that one; you and you alone—it is your destiny—therefore go at all risks; you will then be of age, with nothing to prevent you. I some time knew your father. By the time you receive this I shall be on my way to _____, far away. I have put this in the Derby post-office. Burn it when read—show it to no one. Keep your own counsel, my Lord, and to dance with you fear not. And now I have fulfilled my mission, and shall rest in peace; other dear love I beg, do know that you would meet this bright young girl. If you like, other dear love I beg, she will love her. Adieu, burn this, and remember she is my legacy to you. You have hurt your hand, I am sorry. Farewell for ever.

The Right Hon. Earl Ferrers.

ISABEL.

The Attorney-General said the Jury would now begin to understand the case. The letter he had read was one of those which the plaintiff's mother admitted was in the handwriting of her daughter. Had not he (the Attorney-General) kept faith with the Jury, and redeemed his pledge, and proved the artful conduct of the plaintiff, who had concocted a scheme of the most atrocious iniquity, and which, but for accidental circumstances, was one to which the defendant must have fallen a victim, which would have blasted his reputation, and what was of less consequence, perhaps, deprived him of some portion of his wealth in the shape of damages. He would now read another letter in the same handwriting, and which ran as follows:—

June 5.

Washington, beloved one, when shall I see you, when behold the form of one dearest to me—now dear I may not say. How often I wish for you! How lingers on, days pass away, and alas! I only hear of you—you whom some whisper strange things of. I believe them not—it cannot be; you must be high-minded, noble, generous, good—so have I fancied you. Oh, that it may not be fancy only. You are young, and have neither father nor mother to guide your steps. The world, I am told, is deceitful and wicked—you have no one to advise you, to whisper words of affection and love, to watch over and be with you. You have some wealth, and health is not warned by affliction. Do you never feel lonely?—never wish for others but the sky and wild young things whom you associate? Is there never a blank found in your heart? Do you never sigh for one to love you, whom you could put faith and trust in? Guardians you have had—they may still advise you, but they have then given to think of their children—you, my frequent, though the only, one whom I earnestly bar for love, though apparently, that one a stranger. Surely, it seems fate—I cannot tear you from my heart; your image is ever present there, your welfare first thought of. Report says that you are going wed with a lady of Wales. If so, may you be blessed and happy. I am aware we may never meet—never join hands together, and yet; I cannot forget you. My heart of hearts is yours, and with you will rest. I can never love another; never give my hand without my heart. I am no Welsh lady, but an English woman in thought and action, word and deed; and as an English woman do I love you, think of you. They say that the blood of a Ferrers is not good, and that the generations of the Shirleys have mostly been men of ignoble minds, with one or two exceptions. Washington, add to the honour of your family, disgrace not further your name. What would I give to see you now, to be with and near you always. Alas! in secret I write to you, in secret love you—would we could meet! Do you never visit

Staunton? Will you not be there after the approaching Lichfield review, alone? Beloved one, adieu, adieu—ever, ever your friend.

MARIE.

The Jury would recollect, in reference to the signature to this letter, that the plaintiff's mother admitted that she sometimes called herself Marie instead of Mary. The next letter ran thus:—

Wednesday, March.

Dearest Washington.—Thus again and again will I write to you, and thus call you, for in truth you are dearer to me than any other, and ever will remain so. The question may arise, why write so often?—of what use is it when she puts not her name to these effusions? This is the why and the wherefore—that you may know that there is at least one being on earth who thinks and cares solely for you. Why should I thus feel and care I know not. I have but seen you, but the feeling is implanted and will remain with me. I cannot shake off the memory of yourself—in each second moment of my life. I am a girl of nineteen vexes her parents, and says no to her wagers, and the cause is yourself. I am a girl unadvised thus to write; but you know not the writer, and it is to this a solace and comfort to tell you how much she loves you—how devotedly she is yours. Would that I could shake off the dream, for where will it end—with my life. And when I am folded in the calm, still sleep of death, with my being will it end? And you, may you be happy and blessed. Oh that we might meet—that you could love me even as I you; but we dwelt far apart. And thus music, and flowers, and birds must be still tended and loved by me, for I see you not; and bid you wear it for her sake; but this not to be; you cannot remember me, so you cannot love me. Perhaps these notes may never even reach you—that I should like to know: stay, I will tell you. On the 25th of March, if you are at home, write and say if you have received a packet of a few lines, directed to you at Chartley. An envelope with yes or no written in it will be sufficient. Please the envelope to Miss A. B., Post-office, Leicester. If you write and direct thus, I shall surely have it; perhaps we will take no notice of this—if so well, it will still be the same, and I shall think I know you. Washington, you are mine in thought, and you are very dear to me. Let me still think of you, and if you write I shall then have something to look at as yours.

Now, as ever, your firmest friend and well-wisher, under her assumed name, A.B.

And the last one was as follows:—

Wednesday, May 1, 1844.

My dearest Washington—Days, even weeks, pass on, yet hear I not from or of you. Are you still away from your home? or have you even yet returned to Chartley? I am fearful that these romantic notes of mine should reach you not. How I long to see your face! Shall I ever again do so?—to hear your voice, and see your smiling eyes. I have never seen you more. There is a secret pleasure in writing to you—knowing you know not me, nor can ever dream of the lady's name or place of abode that thus addresses you; therefore I write. Ah! could you but know how much I think of you—how every feature of your face is written on my heart. Methinks, sometimes, you would even love me for my deep, fond love: it is as my being, and will abide with me till death; you are, in thought, all to me. Would you, too, could love the one who thus thinks of you; might my whole life be spent in watching over you, and in preventing every evil from approaching him as he loved it: would, indeed, be untold happiness to be ever near and with you in each danger, difficulty, joy, or sorrow. Once I dreamed the angel of death hovered near you, and that I stayed the hand that would have destroyed, and saved you from death. Heaven, and the God I revere and worship, keep you safe from all harm, most beloved of all on earth to me. Now the beautiful spring comes, and brings with it, flowers, indeed, everything bright and beautiful in nature teaches us to thank the Creator for his boundless bounties. You have very much to be thankful for. May you be happy and blessed in your home, and, when you wed, may the one you may choose be as a creature of life and light to you, brighten each darker moment of your life, lightening each sorrow, enhancing each joy, administering comfort. Thus much may every woman do, if she truly love the one given to her as a gift for life in return, show due consideration and affection for her. Such would I be to thee—leaving all for thy sake—enduring all that thou mightest be blessed. But, perhaps, this may never be. Perhaps you may even now love another. God is above all, with all; he will judge rightly for all. “And thus each mortal treads upon his fate, looks back, sighs, besitates, when ‘tis too late.” Something whispers me we shall meet, be it in the lighted hall or church, or under the shade of the hawthorn tree; we shall meet, though you may not dream you are there, holding converse with your anonymous correspondent. But, time hastens, and, as our carriage passed through the borough from which your second title and prettiest name is derived (Viscount Tamworth), while our horses are “pasted” at the Castle Inn, so I shall post this to you—that Tamworth that ought to be your own, young Lord, instead of Sir Robert Peel's. Dearest Washington, with best wishes for your happiness and future welfare, allow the lady who thus writes to subscribe herself most devotedly, MARIE.

The foregoing letter was inclosed in an envelope, bearing the Tamworth post-mark of May 1, 1844, and addressed as follows:—

“The Right Hon. the Earl Ferrers, Chartley Castle, Staffordshire.”

Having read these letters and duly commented upon them, the learned counsel said that he had proved his case, and had no doubt as to the conclusion to which the Jury would ultimately come.

The letters quoted from by the Attorney-General were here put in and read.

Witnesses were then called on the part of the defendant. They expressed a doubt that the letters were written by him. Mrs. Hanbury, the sister of Earl Ferrers, said that none of the letters she received from him were signed “Washington Ferrers.”

Mr. Hanbury Tracey gave similar evidence as to the signature to the letters, and spoke positively to the 9th December as the day they went from Chartley to Wales. Knew it from documents in his possession.

A clerk from Mivart's Hotel proved that Earl Ferrers had not resided there at the time stated in one of the letters.

The trial was then adjourned till Wednesday.

The case was resumed and concluded on Wednesday, the fourth day.

The Hon. D. Shirley was examined, and stated that the letters shown to him bore no resemblance to his brother's handwriting. He stated that he had never met the plaintiff at any time, and he also denied that he had ever sent her letters or a jacinth ring. (The ring alluded to in the letter.) When this witness had been examined,

The Solicitor General rose and addressed the Court, saying that, owing to his unavoidable absence, it was not until last night that he knew of the production of the four letters; that they had come upon him entirely by surprise, and upon Mr. Hamell, the attorney for the plaintiff. He might, he supposed, say also that they came with the like surprise upon the family of the defendant, for they had been made evidence out of the plaintiff's own mouth. Under these circumstances, as there could be no time to make inquiries into this most mysterious case, he had thought it due to the interests of justice—he had thought it due to the young lady herself—to withdraw the case for the present from the jury, to give time to make inquiry into the defence which had been so unexpectedly presented; and he, with the concurrence of his learned friends, would, therefore, elect to be non-suited.

The Attorney General then applied to the Court, that the letters produced in support of the plaintiff's case might be impounded in court; and thereupon

The Solicitor General said he would make the like application as to the four letters produced on the other side; and

The learned Judge (Wightman) granted both applications: and so ended, for the present, at least, one of the most extraordinary cases ever presented in a court of justice in this country.

The following are the additional letters referred to by the witnesses:—

Charley Castle, Thursday.

My dear Mary.—My brother is at least, no worse: still quiet; talking little. I think, if anything, I may say a slight change for the better. Dr. Knight wishes him not to see any one hardly: ‘tis necessary for him to be kept in perfect quiet. Mrs. Tracey is much affected by his illness, and too much out of health herself to travel, so am his constant attendant, and shall send you often news of him. Be not discouraged: I feel he will still get better, then may come happy days in store for all. Keep up your spirits, and practise your music, and walk, and do not allow yourself to think upon unpleasant things. Take hope as your anchor sheet. We send love—fond love to you, and wishes he could write himself. He had rather a return of turnip disease on Wednesday night, but now is calm and sensible, and smiles and speaks often. I am sorry I have not told you Dr. Knight is here.

You must excuse short notes, remembering that they will come often, and I dare not talk much to W.—But I think, as your marriage must now be off, that your maid had better be dismissed, giving her what you think needful, and I will see that it be paid to your mamma again. ‘Twill be easy to procure another after this, though I will not interfere, as ladies can manage these things so much better than we of the sterner sex.

Adieu. Kind compliments to your parents, and love to you, from your true friend,

DEVEREUX SHIRLEY.

I re-open my note to say my brother has just awoken: he has taken from his hand the jacinth ring, worn from childhood, which he desires me to send; you are to wear it till you are married to him. Fond love and affection accompany the token.

Charley, Tuesday.

My dear Mary.—Pleased am I to tell you my brother is sleeping, now, and I fear he knows not his friends. But Monday we feared greatly for him, but to-day he is better. I had thought him fit to use, but now Dr. Knight says there is much hope, though he is yet very ill and weak. He speaks of you when we are alone, and knows I am writing to you.

Your letter was read and I will now answer it. You are well, and I am well, and I am well. I will not fail to give you often intelligence. Keep up your spirits, and do not make yourself unhappy. People are as upon the watch. Let every thing be kept as silent as may be consistent with all things, both for your own sake and his. Never mind what the people say: take no notice. Monks saw you, he tells me, at Harrovgate. Also in his letter that you have left. So the messenger will bring this to you. Do not make yourself too unhappy. When my brother is well, the first thing will be your wedding. Call me your friend, indeed I feel as such most sincerely. I cannot think how this illness was brought on; they sent for me from Scotland; he was not ill there when he came, but now is sleeping, dear Washington. Mary, I am now well sure of his strong attachment to you. Your letter affected him too much, and Dr. Knight said, “Your brother must have no letter like those at present.”

You for the next week must be satisfied to hear from me about him, and not write yourself, except a line or two, which direct to him at Chartley. Our family do not know of your engagement, and it will be wise to keep it from them. We must shake off all fear of them, and it will be well for the wedding to be a quiet one. Poor lad, ‘twill I fear, be some short time he will be well enough; but he sleeps, and it is well.

I now feel how dear he is to me in every sense of the word. We feared water on the brain, for he was sadly delirious, but now seldom speaks, and then it is the word Mary.

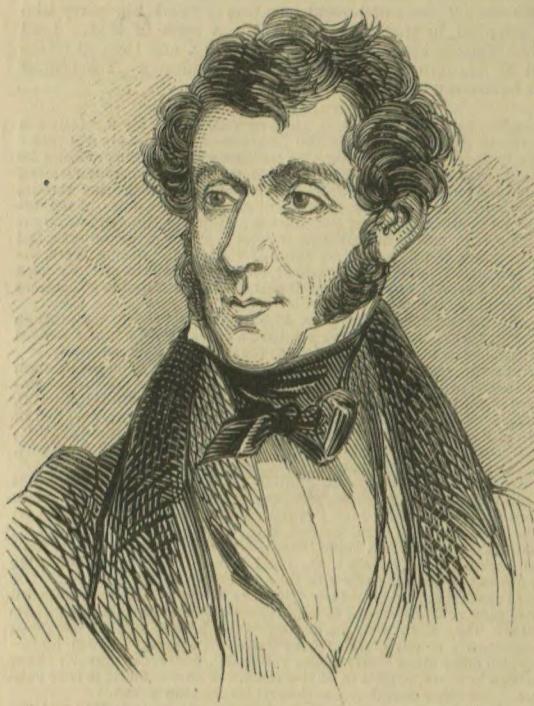
You will hear again very soon, adieu. Now keep up your spirits; ‘tis very trying for you, and I feel very much for you; but all will end for the best is my certain hope.

Allow me to remain your true and sincerely attached friend, as each one who really knows you must be.

RET. DEVEREUX SHIRLEY.

MARY ELIZABETH SMITH v. THE EARL FERRERS.—Though this case concluded rather abruptly on Wednesday, the public are not done with it yet, and are likely to be amused with another case arising out of it, for the notice paper of the Queen of Bench contains an announcement of a case in which the parties are “Erpe v. Earl Ferrers,” the cause of action being a claim by the plaintiff, the grandfather of Miss Smith, for £100, against Lord Ferrers, which he, Mr. Erpe, contends was a loan made by him to the

THE WESTMINSTER ELECTION.



GENERAL SIR DE LACEY EVANS, M.P. FOR WESTMINSTER.

amount of his majority. We annex the state of the poll at different periods of the day, as put forth from each of the committee-rooms.

STATEMENT OF GENERAL EVANS'S COMMITTEE.		STATEMENT OF CAPTAIN ROUS'S COMMITTEE.	
O'clock.	Evans.	Rous.	O'clock.
9	659	284	9
10	1091	707	10
11	1668	1180	11
12	2114	1650	12
1	2543	2008	1
2	2852	2298	2
3	3355	2635	4
4	3703	2938	
Majority, 765.		Majority, 900.	

The poll closed at four o'clock, and it being evident for some hours previously that the fortune of the day would be with General Evans, crowds of Liberal electors and friends of the cause flocked from all directions to the front of the Ship Hotel, Charing-cross, to congratulate their old and gallant representative, now once more reinstated in his position.

About half-past four o'clock, Sir De Lacey Evans presented himself at the balcony of the hotel, and was immediately hailed with deafening shouts and huzzas, intermingled with waving of hats and handkerchiefs, which continued for some

minutes. When silence was in some measure obtained, the gallant General briefly addressed the crowd from the window.

As the final close of the poll approached the excitement around the hustings at Covent-garden, which had been great throughout the day, rapidly increased, and at three o'clock upwards of 10,000 people were packed together in the area which surrounds the market-place. Notwithstanding their tempting vicinity to decayed vegetables of every sort, the vast assembly conducted themselves with exemplary propriety; and, although a band of rough fellows immediately in front of the hustings seemed at one moment bent on disorderly conduct, the prompt and judicious interference of a large body of police soon restored perfect regularity. Shortly after three o'clock, General Evans passed in front of the hustings on horseback, and received the congratulations of the assembly on his success. Captain Rous did not show himself, but his band was visible for a moment as it went along Henrietta-street about four o'clock. At five o'clock, the final state of the poll was announced; and soon afterwards General Evans made his appearance, and addressed the multitude amidst enthusiastic cheering.

The first person who voted at the polling-booth at St. Margaret's Church was Sir Robert Peel. The hon. Baronet arrived as the chimes were going for eight, the commencement of the polling, and gave his vote for Capt. Rous. There were few persons present at that early hour, and few except the poll-clerks were aware of the rank of the voter.

OFFICIAL DECLARATION OF THE POLL.

The following was the official declaration of the state of the poll, as made by the High Bailiff on Thursday afternoon:—General Evans, 3843; Captain Rous, 2906—majority, 937.

We give sketches of the rival candidates.

SIR DE LACEY EVANS.

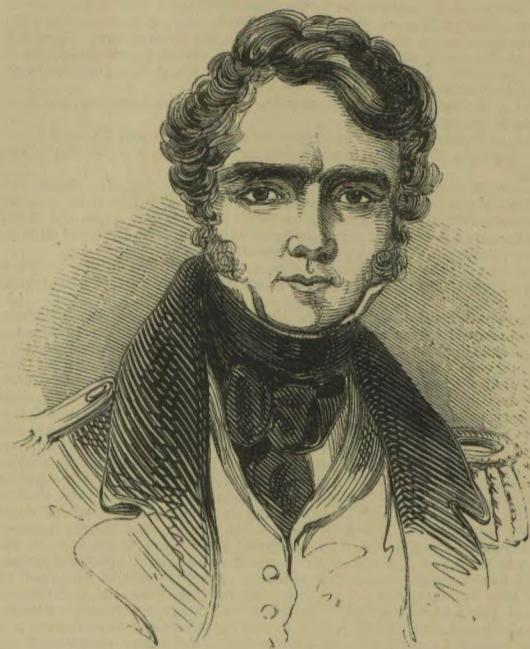
The reputation of the gallant Member for Westminster is a mingled one—it is partly political, partly military. He has fought for Liberalism in very different fields, with very different associates: among the triumphant Whig majority in the House of Commons, and among his British Legion, on the territory of Spain. His military avocations withdrew him, for a time, from the field of politics; it was on the fall of the Conservative Ministry in 1835, that the Liberal Ministry resolved to aid the cause of Christina and the Constitution, then threatened by the energy of the Carlist Generals.

It was on the 1st of July, in that year, that General Evans took the command of the British Legion, numbering 8500 men. The Civil War lasted nearly seven years, and for two of them General Evans took an active part in it. He was not so well supported by the Spaniards as he ought to have been; and he had the same kind of difficulties to encounter, from the dilatory, all-promising, never-acting character of the people, which the Duke of Wellington had so frequently to combat. The actions of Irún, and the operations before Hernani, brought the war to a close, in 1837. On the 14th of May, the Carlist force surrendered; and General Evans and most of the British officers quitted the Spanish Service—which to foreigners has never been a grateful one.

At the Election of 1841, he contested Westminster, and was beaten by Captain Rous, whose success was very unexpected, and was attributed to the apathy and indifference with which the public regarded the fall of the Whigs, whose financial and legislative career had for some years been embarrassed and unsuccessful. Since that period, the gallant officer has not mixed much in public life; he is now restored to it in a manner that must be flattering to him, the majority in his favour being 937. His political opinions are too well known to require capitulation.

CAPTAIN ROUS, R.N.

A Tory sitting for Westminster would formerly have been deemed an impossibility; yet in 1841, Captain Rous, on Tory principles, was returned against a tried Liberal: but the gallant officer has many of the qualities that win popularity, apart from political opinions. A frank, open, and manly bearing; a bold and ready style of speaking; no hesitation about speaking plain truths in a plain manner; all blended



THE HON. CAPTAIN ROUS, R.N.

with a spice of humour that smacks too much of the sailor, not to be acceptable to Englishmen of all classes—these were his recommendations to the Electors of Westminster. Some of his speeches in the House were “refreshing” in the midst of the abundance of half-phrased condemnation there to be found. The Gallant Captain never hinted faults or hesitated dislikes; he said what he thought, and that was not always very favourable to the Board of Admiralty. He speaks well, however, on other than professional questions; it is said that he has suddenly changed his opinions on the Corn-Laws; this is hardly just as a charge; we believe he supported the Canada Corn Bill, and on more than one occasion, defended the relaxation of the Protective System. In the House he was much liked; his address and delivery were good, and, on naval questions, his experience was valuable, for he has seen some hard service.

The Hon. Henry John Rous is the brother of the Earl of Stradbroke, one of the oldest families in England, as it has been established, it is said, in Suffolk, since the days of the Saxon Heptarchy. He was born in 1785, and entered the navy in 1818: he served under the late Sir W. Hoste, and has gained as good a reputation in his profession as most men can do in a time of peace. He has just been appointed by Sir Robert Peel one of the Lords of the Admiralty, an office for which a seat in Parliament is not required.



WESTMINSTER ELECTION.—THE HUSTINGS IN COVENT GARDEN.



LORD LINCOLN.

The seat for the Southern Division of Nottinghamshire is vacant, in consequence of Lord Lincoln having been appointed Secretary for Ireland. He has, of course, to be re-elected by his constituents. There is an opposition to his return on the part of the Protectionists, who have put forward Mr. Hildyard as their candidate; and Lord Lincoln has to engage in the contest under peculiar circumstances, as it is rumoured that the influence of his father, the Duke of Newcastle, will be rather used against him than in his support. His Lordship supported the Ministerial policy, and has most ably defended his conduct in so doing. Some surprise has been expressed that his Lordship should have resigned the office of First Commissioner of Woods and Forests to take the post of Irish Secretary, as the last is considered an office of lower rank. We can scarcely think so; it gives great influence in the ruling of a people—a far higher kind of power than the administration of any department connected with the public revenue. He himself says:

He did not know whether the office he had just accepted was inferior in rank to the one he formerly held. It might be so. But his services had been demanded in that new sphere by his Sovereign, and if he were called to serve her Majesty in an office lower still, his services should be, as heretofore, readily accorded, without reference to its personal dignity. Duty alone ought to actuate a servant of the Crown, and not the consideration whether the office were a little higher or a little lower.

The canvass of Mr. Hildyard has been interrupted by the sudden death of a relative, but it is stated that he will go to the poll. Whatever the decision may be, we doubt if Nottinghamshire can return an abler representative. In the business of the department over which he presided, Lord Lincoln always displayed great official talent; in the details of measures he was always at home, lucid and clear in his statements, and always ready with any explanations that were required. His Lordship is popular with the House, and deservedly so, and we augur well of his success in an office that will bring him before the public more frequently, and on greater questions than he has had yet to deal with. He speaks well, in a manly, straightforward, and business-like style, which is always approved in the House of Commons, where time is valuable. His Lordship is the eldest son of the Duke of Newcastle; he was first returned for the county in 1832.

AGRICULTURAL SCENES.—FEBRUARY, UNSTACKING WHEAT.

This is the second of our Series of Illustrations of the Agricultural Life of the Year, drawn by Mr. Duncan. It shows a scene from the farm business of the month—the Unstacking of Wheat—and is commended by its *resemblance* to actual life, the fidelity of its accessories, and the highly artistical treatment of the entire subject.



Lincoln

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF LINCOLN.

GOSSIP OF THE WEEK.

We have got possession of a curious document *apropos* of the Westminster Election. It is a letter from a very intelligent Chinese resident in London to a friend in Peking, one of the Members of the Ning-Ko, or Imperial Council, giving an account of the nomination in Covent-garden:—

TO KY-LEEN, MANDARIN OF THE WHITE BUTTON, FROM HIS FRIEND SLY-SLANG, A MERCHANT.

"Since I have lived among the outer barbarians, oh, Ky-leen, I have been storing up knowledge with constant labour; like the bee, which extracts its honey from all flowers, the acid and the sweet alike.

"In our land, the wisest are appointed to rule over provinces, states, and departments. The youth who swallows the fruit of knowledge with the greatest avidity, and digests it most effectually at school, is appointed into the magistracy, being chosen for his wisdom by the wise. What saith the proverb? 'The birch beareth good fruit,' and 'A diligent scholar maketh a good master.'

"Here, among these barbarians, the manner of choice is widely different. Those who choose councillors are less wise than the councillors chosen, and I cannot learn what it is that gives unto a man a place in the Loo-poo, or council of this nation. It is not wisdom, of a truth. Those that they call 'Dukes' bear rule therein, yet are they not wise. Sometimes I am told by the barbarians that it is wealth; sometimes that councillors are elected because the chosen one beareth such and such a name. To us of the flowery land, who choose rulers according to their wisdom and knowledge only, this is strange. Truly, I bless the great Fo that I was born in China.

"Some days ago, I went with a friend of the Hoppo, a merchants' company, to witness the nomination of a councillor to sit in the Too-long, or place of speech of the nation, called Parliament.

"The nomination takes place from what, in the barbarian tongue, is called 'hustings,' which is shortened from 'hustle tings'—from the hustling and shoving of each other to and fro, which goes on by the law, when a councillor is being chosen. The *hustings* for Westminster is built in the great vegetable market of London. I found out the reason of this: the people make unto those who present themselves for councillors, offerings of decayed vegetables; and the damaged carrot, with the fetid turnip, and the odiferous cabbage, are thrown unto the mandarins on the hustings. It is an unsavoury offering, and thy friend received thereof, albeit meant for some one else. Then came forward a Too-quin, or Chief Officer, to propose one for councillor, but the choosers shouted aloud, and his voice was not heard; so that it appeared strange to me how they knew who was to be chosen at all. They choose their councillor, it seemed to me, by loud shrieking and groaning, and cursing and striking of one another; and, when the favourite mandarin came forward, he had such vegetables offered up to him as I



AGRICULTURAL PICTURES.—UNSTACKING WHEAT.

have described. Truly, these Barbarians are a wonderful people. The madmen, and the drunken, and the ignorant among them, choose their chiefs. I, a native of the flowery land, was sad when I saw this. My bowels were as water.

"Thy friend, 'SLY-SLANG.'

We do not wonder at the impression which the Westminster Election appears to have produced on our worthy friend. It requires the working out of a great many problems in one's own mind ere one can see how out of the riot, and clamour, and frenzy of a Westminster Election can come any of the good effects of a Representative Government.

The Bail Court has been enlivened this week with one of the most curious legal dramas that ever piqued the languid curiosity of London life. An imposing action was being tried for breach of promise of marriage, with an Earl for the defendant. An interesting young lady (though unromantically named "Smith"), has been wooed and won by a heartless lordling, who, while breathing the most ardent vows to Miss Smith is arranging his marriage with another. A host of letters, choice samples of the absurd and the passionate jumbled together, but bearing every external mark of authenticity, is paraded. Witnesses are examined—father, mother, and sister of the young lady. All goes on swimmingly, and one anticipates swinging damages; when, lo! the case for the plaintiff having closed, with no part of it materially shaken, even by the skilful cross-questioning of the Attorney-General, up gets the learned counsel, and, with a few hours' work, proves, even to the satisfaction of his learned brother, that the letters are wholesale forgeries, that Miss Smith is a most accomplished intriguer, who has constructed and acted through a most ingenious romance of real life; that Lord Ferrers has never seen her or spoken to her since he was a boy at his tutor's, and she a girl at school; that the letters she wrote to him (the posting of which was proved), were anonymous; and the case was dropped, the Solicitor-General electing to be non-suited.

There is nothing like this, as far as we know, in the annals of deception. The question naturally occurs, who forged the letters?

We direct the attention of our readers to the report of the trial, in another part of our paper.

We conclude our Gossip with an earnest exhortation to the House of Commons to get through their talking, to leave off their iteration, and begin the work of the session, to the air of "Sigh no more, ladies."

Talk no more, Members; Members, talk no more;
Corn-Laws are gone for ever!
Your constant talk would be a bore,
Though it were twice as clever.
Then prate not so,
But let them go,
And abuse neither Peel nor Johnny
For converting the country's song of woe
Into hey, nonney, nonney.
Make no more speeches, Members, make no mo.
Speeches both dull and heavy:
It's too bad on our patience so
Dreadful a tax to levy.
Then prate not so,
But to voting go,
And support both Peel and Johnny,
Converting the country's song of woe
Into hey, nonney, nonney.

THE THEATRES.

SURREY.

There is no reason why the Surrey Theatre should not take precisely the same position in London, as the Porte St. Martin at Paris. It is an admirably constructed house—to our thinking, one of the best in the metropolis. Its stage is very spacious, and its machinery can produce the most elaborate effects; whilst its melodramatic company is of first-rate excellence. Above all, it is situated in the centre of a densely-populated neighbourhood, and at a union of several large thoroughfares from important quarters of town.

It has also little opposition, for the nearest house—the Victoria—cannot in any way affect it, as things are at present managed there; and the entertainments at Astley's are entirely of a different character. Altogether, everybody conversant with theatrical matters will tell you that it is "a fine property." The engagements, at different periods, of the leading vocalists from the large theatres, as well as of Madame Vestris, Mr. Charles Mathews, and other acknowledged stars, have given to it a certain degree of importance. But yet it does not stand here, as the Porte St. Martin does. Why not, we will endeavour to point out.

The position of the dramatists in Paris is entirely different to that in England. They are more united as a body: and by that union form a most powerful clique; of proof of which we may cite a case that occurred a year or two ago in Paris. The lessers of the Gymnase Dramatique having refused to comply with a demand put forth by the dramatic authors, the Society, in revenge, placed a species of interdict on the theatre, and forbade any of its members to allow any of their pieces, old or new, to be acted on that stage. M. Poirson, the manager, immediately set to work to form a new Society; when the authors wrote to all the provincial directors, warning them not to enter into any arrangements but with recognised members, or their theatres should be put under the same ban as the Gymnase. The unfortunate theatre was soon deserted, and M. Poirson brought an action against the Society for a conspiracy, which was dismissed; leaving him to pay the costs, and more in the power of the authors than ever.

How different is the state of things in England! A comparatively small number of the leading dramatists form the Society. They are mostly highly talented men, and ought to occupy the ground entirely; round which, like scouts at a pigeon-match, a number of unlicensed scribblers are stationed to bring down pieces in the cheapest manner possible. These last are those that the managers of minor theatres mostly love to patronise. A few pounds—nay, a few shillings—will, in some instances, purchase a piece outright: or, if mighty terms are agreed upon, half-a-sovereign is considered ample remuneration for a three-act drama. Whilst trash can be procured at this cheap rate, the managers do not care to look for better things; nor will acknowledged dramatists stoop to write them.

And next with respect to the *mise en scène*: and here a great reform is needed. The exceeding beauty of detail, so charming to the eye in the French theatres, is with us entirely lost sight of. Managers never give the public credit for understanding effect as well as—nay, very often better than—they do themselves; but they have only to sit in the pit and boxes, and hear the remarks about them, to form a different opinion. It is not likely that, with the present constant endeavours to infuse artistic feelings into the masses, they should remain unconscious of the glaring incongruities presented by every scene. Wings that have not the most remote connection with the flats, except that both may be exteriors or interiors; dingy light-blue sky-pieces coming down against scenes of glowing sunset; dresses of every conceivable and inconceivable fashion—Plantagenet tunics, "First Bandit" trunks, "Richardson" helmets, and armes shod with the more all these defects can be multiplied the more the managerial idea of a "grand spectacle" is realised.

We are happy to notice a great improvement upon all these points, in a drama brought out here on Monday, called "The Sea-King's Vow," from the pen of Mr. Edward Stirling. It is founded on a legend, thus given in the bills:—

"A swarm of savage Norsemen and Danes had overran the Saxon Kingdom of Wessex: the history of tyranny scarcely furnishes a more appalling picture of devastating and appalling cruelty than that which followed the success of this invasion. Thorgill, the Sea-King, vowed unless a hundred of the fairest and noblest virgins of the land became the willing slaves of his ruthless chiefs, to exterminate the name of Saxon from British ground, 'and make the Kingdom a desolate waste.'

These fair and noble virgins, not approving of Thorgill's intentions, resolve upon taking up arms, and this determination furnishes the chief effects of the piece, which comprise the warlike evolutions of these lady warriors, all clad in bright armour, their military tactics, and their final struggle for liberty, and defeat of the foe. We have never seen anything of the kind so well done, since the first production of "The Revolt of the Harem." They had all the precision of their late fellow Amazons at the Lyceum, and mustered four times as many. The plot of the piece was somewhat confused; but it afforded scope for some excellent acting by Mr. Hughes and Mrs. Vining: and Mr. J. T. Johnson fought a combat with three Danes, which would have crowned Messrs. Blanchard and Bradley with honour in their best days. Mr. Cowell and Miss Martin supported the comic characters admirably.

A great expense has evidently been incurred in putting the piece on the stage; but it will repay the outlay: and is a great relief to the threadbare domestic heroine line of business. Its reception was most triumphant. On Tuesday evening, when we were present, the house was crowded to the ceiling. And to see the Surrey crowded to the ceiling is no ordinary spectacle; it is alone worth the pilgrimage to the transpontine districts.

We hope the success of this piece will induce the lessee to bring forward others with similar spirit. To draw money to the treasury, it must be first plentifully expended: the public will never grudge their patronage to any theatre which they see carried on with judicious liberality. On the other hand a rumour of economy, once set abroad, is death to all dramatic speculations.

QUEEN'S.

Mr. Henry Betty has been playing at this house during the week, appearing on Monday and Tuesday as *Macbeth*, on Wednesday and Thursday as *Hamlet*, and on Friday and Saturday as *Othello*. His performance of *Hamlet* on Wednesday, when we were present, was above mediocrity; but he was very indifferently supported. The audience evidently comprehended but little of what they were hearing. They applauded Mr. Betty, it is true, in those portions of the tragedy with which they were in a measure familiar; but, beyond this, bestowed all their attention upon *Polonius*. We were sorry to see the house so poorly attended.

OLYMPIC.

The career of this management was suddenly cut short on Monday evening. Mr. Otway was announced to appear in one of Shakspeare's plays, but before the hour for opening the doors, a bill was pasted up to the effect that there would be no performance, the season having terminated. Rumours have been prevalent for some time, in theatrical circles, that the salaries at this house were anything but certain, as Saturday came round; and, judging from the style in which the pieces were produced, and the manner in which they were played, this was not to be wondered at. We have refrained (possibly more than we ought to have done, as impartially reporting what is going on in the dramatic world) from speaking too harshly of the management of this theatre, conscious that many hard-working individuals were dependant upon its success for the support of themselves and families; but now that the "season" is concluded, we cannot injure them by expressing our free opinion.

The theatre was opened under the management of a Miss Kate Howard—a lady we had not before seen, but, as the result has proved, one perfectly incompetent to fill the post of either principal actress or directress. A company was collected, chiefly (with the exception of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lacy, whom we were sorry to see there) of those unfortunate *artistes* who always contrive to get their names associated with sixth-rate spectacles; and, after many flourishing promises, a few new pieces were badly acted; and, then, several threadbare farces and dramas, and a wretched burlesque on Mr. Dickens's last work, effectively brought the career of this *entreprise* to a contemptible termination. At the very commencement of the season we prognosticated all this: any one conversant with theatrical affairs could have done the same, even in contradiction to most of our contemporaries. We trust this will be the last of these disgraceful speculations—for such they really are. They lower the profession; they hold back salaries from those who can the worst afford to lose them; and, what is worse than all, they attach a stigma irrevocably to the names of all the actors and actresses engaged in such forlorn hopes of success.

The minor theatres are just at present running on Zoological attractions. In addition to the two Elephants at *ASTLEY'S*, there are two more at the *CITY OF LONDON* theatre, from Mr. Hughes's Menagerie, as well as the dog *Emile*. Some of the Saloons advertise Lions and Tigers; and, at the *STANDARD*, there are horses, a dog, and a monkey—but whether it is a real one or an impersonation we know not. By the way, we were wrong in stating that the *Astley's* Elephants were from Paris; we believe they have been engaged from a caravan.

MUSIC.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

SACRED CONCERTS.—The fifth scheme, on Wednesday night, was, as usual well attended, at Crosby Hall. Michael Wise's fine anthem, "Prepare ye the Way," was well executed. He was Master of the Choristers at St. Paul's, in 1686, and was killed in a night brawl with a watchman, in Salisbury. A charming duet by Beethoven, "What Holy Calm," was encored; it was well sung by Miss Steele and Mr. Francis. Mr. Machin was called upon to sing twice, Hasse's air, "Let the Storm," from the "Fall of Jericho." Miss Steele gave Poyer's air, "The Voyager's Invocation," so artistically, that she was compelled to repeat it. Miss Rainforth sang, with Machin, Mehl's duet from "Joseph"—"Dear Child of Hope," and also gave Handel's air from "Joshua"—"Hark! 'tis the Linnet." Gleanings from F. A. Reissiger, Neukom, Cherubini, J. S. Bach, Spohr, and Graun, were also judiciously made. Mendelssohn's psalm, "Hear my Prayer," composed expressly for these Concerts, was executed for the second time. Miss Mounsey performed on the organ—which, by the way, is susceptible of improvement in quality—with her accustomed success. The last Concert will be given March 13th.

CHORAL HARMONISTS.—Our tickets reached us too late to attend the fourth meeting on Monday last, at the London Tavern. The scheme comprised Weber's Mass in G; Mozart's Offertorium, "Laudate Dominum;" Himmel's Chorus, "Hark the Angel Voice;" F. Anerio's Madrigal (1590), "Ah Me, where is My True Love?" and the Overture and Selection from Mozart's "Magic Flute." We missed, therefore, a great treat. The next concert will be on the 9th of March.

THE EUTERPEON SOCIETY.—The fifth concert took place last Tuesday, at the City Lecture Theatre, in Milton-street, when a selection from Handel's "Judas Maccabaeus" was performed: Mrs. Newton, Miss Chambers, Mr. Redfearn, and Mr. Leffler being the principal singers.

THE RICHMOND INSTITUTION.—Miss S. Hobbs, a young and promising vocalist, who has been heard lately at Concerts, with pleasure, gave a *Soirée* on Tuesday night, which was well attended. She was assisted by Miss E. Salmon, Mr. Wrighten, and Mr. Weatherbee. Miss Hobbs was encored in Handel's "Verdure clad," and Bellini's "Qui la Voce," &c.

SIGNOR RIBAS'S CONCERT.—This clever flautist had a large muster of his friends on Wednesday evening, at the Princess' room, in Castle-street, aided by M. de Folly, Mr. Bolton, and Master Wells, also flautists; Mr. H. Laurent and Miss Chipp, pianists, the Ciebras Guitarists, Mr. Dando, the violinist, Miss Birch, the Misses Williams, Mr. Lockey, and Signor F. Lablache, vocalists. Mr. Muhlenfeld was the conductor. There was a very agreeable programme, of which Ribas's own cavatina, sung by Miss Birch, with flute obligato, was not the least attractive piece.

THE KENNINGTON GLEE CLUB.—This Club was established in 1837, and is conducted by Mr. Boardman. The amateurs are aided by artists at their concerts. The "Ladies' Night," held at the Horns Tavern, on Monday last, was fully attended. Mr. Hill, a counter-tenor, of Westminster Abbey, and Mr. Kench, who has a remarkably fine bass voice, assisted in the glee, amongst which were the gems of Webbe, Callicot, Horsley, Stevens, T. Cooke, Walmesley, &c.

THE HUTCHINSON FAMILY.—Hanover-square Rooms were quite crowded at the second concert on Wednesday night, and *encores* were enthusiastically bestowed on the gifted minstrels whose music of nature's impulse affords a charm rarely met with from the most scientific combinations. We are glad to find that the critics, setting aside all musty learning, do justice to the fine feeling of these delightful vocalists.

MELOPHONIC SOCIETY.—Miss Linwood's oratorio of "David's First Victory," performed at the Hanover-square Rooms, is a pleasure, but not an original work, deriving its principal interest from its being the production of a lady composer, the first who has, we believe, attempted that high and difficult range in art. It was well executed as regards the principal singers, Miss Rainforth, Miss A. Williams, Mr. Lockey, and Mr. Machin; but the amateurs want drilling sadly. Mr. Lucas conducted, and Blagrove was leader. Mr. T. Jolley presiding at the organ.

MADAME DULCEN'S THIRD SOIREE MUSICALE.—Two novelties attracted the attention of amateurs and artists to the third programme, the one, a trio in C Minor, for pianoforte, violin, and violoncello, by Mendelssohn; and the other a "Sonate Symphonique," for piano for four hands, by Moscheles. The trio by Mendelssohn is a masterly inspiration, worthy of his genius, the scherzo of which created an extraordinary sensation. There is also an impassioned andante, and a concluding "Allegro appassionato," of inspiring themes, treated with the unity of design, and clearness of writing, peculiar to Mendelssohn. The sonata was a failure. We heard from several distinguished connoisseurs the marked expression of dislike after the close of the first part. Moscheles appears to have an ambition to rival the eccentric flights of Beethoven, but without the genius to carry out, connectedly, his plan. The sonata, imitative as regards its forms, is terribly deficient in ideas, and a dismal, dreary scherzo, with a tolling bell effect, produced the most disagreeable impression. Here and there were nice bits, but the entire construction was patchy and fragmentary—wild and incoherent. Nobody could have imagined that this sonata had emanated from the writer of such splendid pianoforte music as Moscheles has given to the world. Mozart's elegant air for *Leporello*, "Madamina," came like music on the waters after the *Sonata*. "Welcome to the language of nature!" cried an amateur, and he was right. Half-a-dozen phrases of pure melody are worth folios of dry counterpoint. Signor F. Lablache sang the air admirably: he is a first-rate musician. Haydn's Quartet in G minor, No. 74, was superbly executed by Sainton, Goffie, Hill, and Lucas. Madame Dulcken had onerous duties—she had to join Moscheles in the interpretation of the "Sonata," to play Field's "Pastorale," the pianoforte part in Mendelssohn's Trio, and ditto in Weber's Concerto in E flat (Adagio and Rondo)—but her great skill, unfiring energy, and marvellous mechanism, carried her through triumphantly. The Misses Williams sang a duet by Handel, "Tanti Strali," the last movement of which reminded us strongly of Marcello's Psalm, "Qual Aelante." Miss Rainforth was encored in Macfarren's "Ah! why do we love?" and then sang one of Wallace's ballads from "Maritana."

MR. LUCAS'S SECOND MUSICAL EVENING.—The programme on Thursday night comprised a Quintet in G minor, Op. 106, by Spohr, played for the first time in this country, Haydn's Quartet No. 2 of Op. 72 in D major, Beethoven's Pianoforte sonata, Op. 27 in C sharp minor, and his glorious Quintet, Op. 29 in C major. Spohr's work pleased the amateurs; there was less of his mannerisms than usual, although the pretty theme in the opening movement was overworked. The Larghetto was a pathetic piece of writing—the "Scherzo" a little vague, but the finale, in G major, a charming pastoral quaintly treated, recalling in some degree Beethoven's imagery. Haydn's Quartet, full of elegance and point, told well of course, the "Adagio cantabile" being quite enchanting. The sonata, a passionate lament, was artistically played by Mr. R. Barnett, formerly a pupil of the Royal Academy. But Beethoven was the climax of musical glory—its awful grandeur, impassioned adagio, sportive scherzo, and war of the elements at the close, created an overwhelming sensation. Sainton, as the *chef-d'œuvre*, was quite astounding in executive skill. He took up the points with marvellous precision. He was ably seconded by his colleagues, M. Guynemer, second violin; Messrs. Tolbecke and Hill, tenors; and Mr. Lucas, violoncello.

CONCERT OF M. COLAS AND MR. JEWELL.—At Blagrove's Rooms, on Monday last, a Concert was given by these flautists, assisted by Mr. W. H. Holmes, Middle Sherrard, and Miss Dinah Farmer, pianists; the two Ciebras, guitarists; Regondi, cornettina; Ellis Roberts, Welsh harpist; and Mrs. W. H. Seguin, the Misses Cubitt, E. Lyon, H. Groom, E. Badger, O'Connor, Friedel, Messrs. H. Smith, and W. H. Seguin, as vocalists. There were several *encores* in a programme of twenty pieces.

BENEDICT'S OPERA.—Thursday next is mentioned as the day for its production at Drury Lane Theatre. Its title had not been fixed. The subject was that of the third and last Crusade, embracing the adventures of the "Man of the Mountain," and the fall of the Crescent, by the election of a Christian King of Jerusalem. The lessee has made an immense outlay for the spectacle, having sent to Paris for the Knights, &c. Miss Homer, Miss Rainforth, Mr. King, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Stretton, Borrau, and Weis, have the principal parts. In one scene, there will be more than 600 persons on the stage.

MR. WALLACE.—This composer, pianist, and violinist, has had a brilliant reception, in a musical tour in Ireland, his native country, accompanied by M. Blaess, Miss Messen, and Grattan Cooke, the tenor singer and oboe player.

DEATH OF MR. HAWES, THE COMPOSER AND VOCALIST.—We regret to announce the death of this artist, who expired at his house, in the Adelphi Terrace, of a diseased heart, on Wednesday last. He was Almoner, and Master of the Boys of St. Paul's, and of the Chapel Royal. He was also Lutist to her Majesty, Member of the Royal Society of Musicians, Conductor of the Madrigal Society, and of the Western Madrigal Society—both of which have postponed their Meetings in respect for his memory. Mr. Hawes was for many years Director of Music at the Lyceum, under Mr. Arnold's management; and first produced, in 1824, Weber's "Der Freischütz." He was the composer of several popular glees, madrigals, songs, &c., and gained various prizes for his compositions. He published the "Triumphs of Oriana," a collection of madrigals by the writers of the Elizabethan era. Mr. Hawes had a counter-tenor voice, but could take any part in a glee. He was a good player on various instruments. He has left three sons and three daughters, Miss M. B. Hawes, the celebrated contralto—the finest singer of sacred music in this country, second only to Brahman—being the youngest of the latter. Mr. Hawes was universally respected as a man of integrity, and will be sincerely lamented by a numerous circle.

BRAHAM.—The friends and admirers of this gifted vocalist have been greatly shocked by the sudden death of his amiable wife, on Sunday night. Mrs. Brahman was remarkably handsome. She had no illness, but in the middle of the night exclaimed, "John, I am dying." Assistance was called, but before medical aid arrived she died in the arms of her eldest son, Hamilton, with a tranquil smile on her face. Her eldest daughter is married to the Earl of Waldegrave, and she has left another daughter, unmarried, and three sons.

THE MUSICAL UNION.—Mr. Ella, the director, after a six months tour in Germany, has returned to London, and the meetings will commence after Easter. He ranks the great European concert orchestras thus:—Paris first, Vienna second, London third, Berlin fourth, Munich fifth, and Leipzig last. The latter is certainly underrated. Mendelssohn's band is second only to the Parisian Conservatoire under Habeneck; but we hope before this season is over, to be enabled to place our Philharmonic, under Costa's unrivalled conductorship, in the first category.

DEATH OF MR. LODER, THE VIOLINIST.—This celebrated leader of our orchestras, died on Friday week, at his house, in Albany-street, in his 58th year. He was an excellent tenor as well as violin player. He has left five sons and two daughters: amongst the former, are E. J. Loder, the composer, John Loder, the Lyceum leader, and W. Loder, the leading violoncello of the Drury Lane orchestra.

LIONS OF THE SEASON.—Thalberg, Dohler, Dreyschock, Leopold de Meyer, Molique Piatti (the violoncello player), Berlioz, Pischek, Staudigl, Vieuxtemps, Sivori, Madame Dorus Gras, Mdlle. Nau, Madame Thillon, Mendelssohn, &c., are expected.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—We have as yet no prospectus of the season. It is reported that

229. "A Bather," decidedly the best of the three, has less of these defects, although we should desire a little more limpidity and transparency in the water.

229. "A Pirate carrying off a Captive," does not convey an exact notion of its title, but affords another opportunity of displaying the power of delineating female figure.

We cannot find anything to admire in the "Children Reposing after a Bath," 157.

Landseer has condescended to send but one picture, a very small figure (3), which he calls "The Penitent," though it shows very little feeling of repentance; however, it is a very pretty profile, but weakly painted.

422. "The Cabin Door," by Topham, is a charming little bit of nature, of very modest pretensions, and very unjustly placed in an obscure corner of the room, under a lot of works of ambitious size and inferior merit.

297. "View between Delft and the Hague," by Waldorp; looks like an old Flemish picture. It yields to none in the collection for charm of execution, whilst it excels them all in point of reality and character.

191. "Frost Scene—Evening." Mr. C. Branwhite seems to have aimed at displaying in the same frame all the different qualities that are requisite to portray the most various and sometimes opposed effects of nature; and his bold attempt has been decidedly successful. The exquisite handling of the minutest details may well be commended after the masterly execution of the sunny background.

160. "The Vale of Terni," and 363. "Piada in Epidaurus," are both remarkable for the distance the artist gives to his canvass, and his admirable sense of perspective; though a little more warmth is desirable in the atmosphere of this truly geographical scene. We can vouch for the special accuracy of the scene from Epidaurus.

The exhibition, so deficient in historical subjects, or compositions of a lofty character, is, as might be expected, rich in views and landscapes, of which Creswick is always the most prominent contributor. His "Skirts of the Forest"—grand in conception, and broad in execution—is now only the best of the three he has sent there, but certainly the most remarkable of its class.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS, RECENTLY DECEASED.

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HENRY CLINTON, G.C.B.

This venerable and highly distinguished Officer, whose term of service exceeded sixty years, was son of the late Sir Henry Clinton, K.B., Commander-in-Chief in America against Washington, and grandson of Admiral the Hon. George Clinton, an eminent Naval Officer, whose father, Sir Francis Fienne Clinton, Knt., inherited the Earldom of Lincoln in 1692. At a very early age, in 1784, Sir William entered the Army as Cornet 7th Light Dragoons; in 1787 became Lieutenant; in 1790, Captain; in 1794, Lieutenant-Colonel; in 1801, Colonel; in 1808, Major-General; in 1813, Lieutenant-General; and in 1830, General.

During the Dutch campaign of 1793-4, he was actively engaged, and took part in twelve sieges and encounters. He was subsequently appointed to the command of the Allied Anglo-Sicilian Army on the East Coast of Spain, and in that important station rendered essential aid to the operations of Lord Wellington, by keeping in check the whole force of Marshal Suchet.

In 1814, he obtained the colonelcy of the 55th Foot, and in 1842, was presented to the office of Lieut.-Governor of Chelsea Hospital. Sir William married, in 1797, Louisa Dorothea, daughter of the Earl of Sheffield, and has left a large family, of which is Lieutenant-Colonel Clinton of the Grenadier Guards. The deceased General was returned for Newark in 1826, by the interest of his kinsman the Duke of Newcastle, and continued to sit in Parliament until 1829. His death occurred on Sunday morning, the 15th, at the family seat, Cockenhatch, near Royston, whither he had been removed, during the previous week, for change of air, from his town residence, Audley-square.

SIR GEORGE LEFEVRE, M.D.

Sir George Lefevre, whose death took place a few days since, held a good position in the medical profession, was Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and Physician to the British Embassy at St. Petersburg. He had appeared also in the world of letters, and was author of a pamphlet entitled "Thermal Comfort." He was son of the Rev. George Lefevre, of Southampton, was born in 1796, and married in 1825 a daughter of Colonel Charles Fraser, East India Company's service.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

GRAND DINNER AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.—On Tuesday, the Lord Mayor gave a splendid entertainment at the Mansion-house. Upwards of 150 sat down to dinner in the Egyptian-hall, which was most tastefully laid out for the occasion.

THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC CHARITIES' Ball took place on Monday last, at the Queen's Concert Rooms, Hanover-square, and was very brilliantly attended. Although the proceeds of this ball are dedicated to a charitable purpose, all the arrangements were on a most liberal scale.

MORTALITY IN THE METROPOLIS.—The deaths in the metropolis, in the week ending the 14th instant, amounted to 911; births, 1,375.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION.—On Tuesday morning a journeyman typefounder, named John Feacy, attempted to stab Thomas Martin, in a house situated in Cradle-court, Redcross-street, Cripplegate. The culprit, a man about fifty years of age, was examined at Guildhall, on Wednesday, charged with running a carving-knife into the left side of Martin, between the eleventh and twelfth ribs, penetrating to the lower part of the thorax, within the cavity of the chest. According to the evidence of Susannah Emberton, the quarrel originated in jealousy. Martin was subsequently examined, though in a very precarious state. The prisoner was conveyed to the Compter, to await the fate of Martin.

SUICIDE FROM A STEAMER.—On Tuesday afternoon, the *Diamond*, Gravesend steamer, which leaves London-bridge-wharf at four o'clock, was off Northfleet, on her downward passage, when a man (unknown), who was standing on the after-deck, suddenly jumped over the side of the vessel into the river. On the alarm being given, Captain Fox promptly stopped the engine and turned astern, and lowered her stern-boat, which was quickly on the spot, but too late to recover the body; only his hat and handkerchief being seen and picked up, and which are at the Diamond-office.

COUNTRY NEWS.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN LIVERPOOL.—A fire of an alarming character broke out on Tuesday afternoon, in the Back Goree, Liverpool, on the premises in the rental of Messrs. Heath and Sons. The building was eight stories in height, and was respectively occupied, the second and third stories by Mr. Edward Heath, and were stored with tallow on the second floor, and tallow on the third floor. In rooms five and six there was Indian corn, and on the seventh floor there were 1,800 sacks of flour belonging to Mr. John Bald. The building has fallen a prey to the flames. The warehouse adjoining has taken fire, and was nearly destroyed. The insurance offices will be losers to a considerable sum. The amount of property destroyed, including buildings and merchandise, is estimated at upwards of £150,000. It is believed that the fire originated with the carelessness of some of the porters, who very culpably have been allowed to smoke in every part of the building, as the disaster originated in a story where they usually congregated, and broke out a few minutes after they had gone to dinner.

EAST GLOUCESTERSHIRE ELECTION.—The High Sheriff has fixed Friday, the 27th inst., as the day for the nomination of candidates to fill the vacancy occasioned by the retirement of the Hon. Francis Charteris; the nomination will be at the County Hall, Gloucester. At present, the Marquis of Worcester is the only candidate in the field.

NORTH NOTTINGHAM ELECTION.—The nomination is fixed for the 28th inst. Lord A. Bentinck is a candidate.

RUTLANDSHIRE ELECTION.—The seat in the House of Commons vacated by the retirement of the Hon. W. Davy, was on Saturday conferred upon George Finch, Esq., of Burley-on-the-Hill, without opposition. Mr. Finch is a Conservative and a Protectionist.

IRELAND.

MURDER OF A WIFE BY HER HUSBAND.—On the 10th instant, while a man of the name of Daniel Dunn was in the act of cutting timber in his house, i.e. had some angry words with his wife, during which he struck her with the hatchet he held in his hand, and killed her. This shocking deed occurred at Shanahan, near Clogheen. Dunn has made a full confession of his guilt, and has been committed to Tipperary gaol for trial.

EXECUTION OF SEERY AT MULLINGAR.—On Friday (last week) Bryan Seery was executed at Mullingar. The conviction took place under the following circumstances:—Some time since Sir Francis Hopkins was shot at by a man in Westmeath; Sir Francis tried to seize the assassin, but he escaped; and afterwards Seery was captured. The sole witness to the prisoner's identity with the assassin was the prosecutor: the defence was the common Irish defence—ALIBI; which was of course sworn to stoutly, as it always is in Ireland. One Jury could not agree to the verdict, two Roman Catholics standing out against conviction: a second Jury condemned the man: efforts to procure commutation of his sentence failed, and he was left for execution. Seery, at the place of execution, solemnly denied his guilt. A circumstance highly characteristic of the feeling of the public occurred. The morning was calm—the sounding of bugles and pealing of drums were heard in all directions. There was a perfect cessation of business in the town. About ten o'clock all the shops were closed, and not a single human being was to be seen in the streets—not one individual came in from the country. Thus the people determined to mark their opinion of this awful tragedy—for all regard Seery as a martyr. At eleven o'clock the military were paraded before the gaol; and not one human being appeared before the scaffold, but themselves and the police. Even the magistrates of the county stayed away—not one of them appeared, except Mr. Uniacke, who walked up and down with Captain Despard. Under the imposing head of the "Mullingar Tragedy," the reporter of the Dublin *Freeman* furnishes that journal with a long and highly-coloured account of the interment of Bryan Seery. The melancholy spectacle took place on Sunday, in the presence of vast multitudes of the country people, whose numbers were estimated by the writer to amount to 50,000 or 60,000 souls.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE ROYAL HUNTING ESTABLISHMENT.

No bright particular star in the constellation of its aristocratic appendages—not even the company of courtly befeaters itself—is so characteristic of the train of a British Monarch as its appliances and means of woodcraft. Cotemporary almost with our Kingly institution is the provision made for carrying on the chase as part and parcel of the Royal state. Probably the office of Grand Falconer is older than that of Master of the Buck Hounds, but the latter is old enough, for we find it was a court appointment in the reign of Edward the Second. During the Protectorate, or plebeian interregnum, it went to the wall, but returned with merry Charles. Passing over its subsequent vicissitudes, we come to it in the especial era of squirearchy—the good old times "when George the Third was King." The sport of stag-hunting as now practised, with all its pomp and circumstance—indeed, with rather more, for it has become divested of its yeomen-prickers—was then first promoted and followed in the state befitting a mighty hunter. The fashion in which it then took the field was right Regal. The Royal party appeared in grey frocks with black collars and cuffs; the huntsmen and whips in scarlet and gold; and the aforesaid yeomen-prickers, half-a-dozen in number, in similar liveries, with French horns slung over their shoulders.

About the commencement of the present century George the Third gave up hunting, and the splendour of the Royal hunt fell somewhat into eclipse till the year 1813, in which the late Duke of Richmond presented his celebrated pack of fox-hounds to his Majesty George the Fourth—then Prince Regent. This was a signal for the entire remodelling of the system and its materials. George Sharpe, huntsman to his Royal Highness's fox-hounds when the Prince hunted Hampshire, was appointed to that office with the buck-hounds, and three whippers-in superseded the old yeomen-prickers. In 1823 Lord Maryborough became Master of the Buck-hounds, and was the first who, in that capacity, exercised control over the establishment, the Master of the Horse having heretofore had the management of it. To Lord Maryborough succeeded the Lords Lichfield, Cheshire, Errol, Kinnaird, and Rosslyn—the latter nobleman being at this writing Master of her Majesty's Stag-hounds. With their present position is our present purpose.

No doubt, such Continental people as are cognizant of the fact that there are Royal packs of stag-hounds, and of harriers, and of beagles, set it down that when at the Castle of Windsor the English Court does nothing but circumvent beasts of chase, harts, hares, and such-like, morning, noon, and night. So far as regards deer chasing, it is our duty to undeceive them. The Royal hunting establishment is a modern illustration of the *lucus a non lucendo*; not a member of our Royal family or its connexions ever goes near it, save, upon rare occasions, his Royal Highness Prince George of Cambridge. The Queen's hounds hunt twice a week for the benefit of the public, and once a week for the enjoyment of those favoured with the fixtures. The pack was never in such form. Kennel lameness, once the opprobrium of Ascot, has been very nearly eradicated; and, when it does now appear, it is so much less violent than it was wont, that a little care restores the patient. The open weather they have had this season has been very fatal to their deer, a large average having fallen victims, but they have eleven or twelve brace in the paddocks at Swinley.

In hounds they were never so strong—neither, perhaps, was the quality ever so good: the bitch pack, which showed at the meet at the kennels on Monday last, was a model of shape and condition. Mr. Charles Davis, one of the best and most popular men of his craft, continues to hunt them, and seems to grow younger every day; and they are whipped in by the two Bartlets—father and son. The hunting stud stands at Cumberland Lodge: it is good, but not quite up to the standard. All the essentials of such an establishment, however, there are, but the *divinus affatus* spirit of the institution is wanted. It was meant that the Royal hounds should have Royal hunters; and it is a proof of the extreme loyalty and courtesy of those who occupy the district over which they hunt, that, however they may be dissatisfied with the present state of things, they "give no sign." It is certainly to be regretted that those to the master born do not patronise the field-days of the Royal stag hounds; but it is not for that reason we would have the establishment put an end to.

Fox-hunting, in the neighbourhood of London, is a farce. You might as well expect an Alderman to give a run as Reynard born and bred in a suburban pre-

serve. Would ye have the youth of this metropolis—the heirs of Cockagne, if it please ye—as ignorant of woodcraft as the moustached multitude of the Italian Boulevard? Perish the thought, young sir! What though fate has planted you remote from woods, there is such a man as Tilbury, who, for a consideration, will mount you becomingly. There is the Royal Hunting Establishment always within an hour or so of Charing-cross: take the air with it, and our advice as to the manner. Remember, the days of the road are over—therefore eschew Macadam. If your horse will jump, so much the better; but, next to being well over a fence, it is honourable to be well in it. And, above all, cultivate pace: rather die than let the parson of the parish beat you. Let no man ever reproach you with having wore a pair of spurs—merely as ornaments to your heels. Bear these hints always about you; and, when you are at the uncaring of the next stag, unless you show some of the base Bezonians the stern of your steed, it's time your father bound you 'prentice to a tailor.

TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—Mermaid, of whom we have previously spoken, as a rising favourite for the Chester Cup, was in great form this afternoon, rising from 30 to 22 to 1, and disputing the premiership with Lord George Bentinck's nag—who, by the way, was rather on the totter. Whinstone, Sweetmeat, Arthur, Fitzalan, and Cataract, were in demand, but no material change in the prices was observable. The Derby bets were 5 to 1 agst Sting, laid to several hundred pounds; 15 to 1, to two or three hundred, agst Brocardo—an improvement of three points; 1000 to 30, at least ten times, agst Tibthorpe; and 1000 to 25 agst Humdrum. Nothing fresh in the Oaks.

NEWMARKET HANHICAP, 16 to 1 agst Dexters.

CHESTER CUP.	
22 to 1 — Best Bower (t)	25 to 1 agst Whinstone (t. fr.)
22 to 1 — Mermaid	26 to 1 — The Baron
23 to 1 — Sweetmeat (take 25 to 1)	30 to 1 — Mickey Free (t. to £50)
	35 to 1 — Cataract
	1000 to 12 agst Correct Card.

DERBY, 30 to 1 agst Malcolm (t), 1000 to 25 agst Humdrum (t), 1000 to 30 agst Tibthorpe (t. 9 times)

OAKS, 35 to 1 agst Wilderness

CHESTER CUP, 22 to 1 agst Sweetmeat (t), 25 to 1 — Whinstone (t), 30 to 1 — Fitzalan (t), 35 to 1 — Cataract (t), 35 to 1 — Hope (t)

DERBY, 27 to 1 agst Spithhead (t), 30 to 1 — Malcolm (t), 30 to 1 — Tibthorpe (t), 35 to 1 — Correct Card.

OAKS, 400 to 200 on Brocardo agst Traverser.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"*Chesso-Mania.*"—Any solution is correct which effects the mate according to the prescribed conditions; but, in a well-constructed Problem, this can rarely be done in more than one way. Your attempt to solve No. 106 is a failure. The solution you require is as follows:—1. *Q* to *B* 8th (*ch*); *K* to *Q* 2nd. 2. *Q* to *Q* 8th (*ch*); *K* takes *R*. 3. *Q* takes *R* (*ch*); *Q* takes *Q* mate.

"*Automaton.*"—You are right in No. 107, but failed in the other.

"*Chispa.*"—We have not got the game alluded to at hand.

"*Red Rock.*"—If we mistake not, the *Lancs.* of "Double Chess" may be procured at Sherwin's, the *Chess-man Turner*, in Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

"*Ignoramus.*"—How is it possible you can overlook the glaring fact, that, by moving the *Rook* as you advise, Black could at once make a *Queen*—*check*, and win the game?

"*Gresham.*"—*Civis.* "R. T. W." *India Chambers*, and other Correspondents, suggest to the Members of the London Chess Club, that great advantage might accrue to the Club if, on occasions of interest like the present match, the evenings of play were duly announced, and invitations issued to the Members of other Chess Institutions in London and the vicinity. We agree with them, and trust the hint will not be thrown away.

"*Tippoo Saib.*"—The *Palan* which occasions you so much disquietude, was, doubtless, introduced, like the accessories in a painting, for effect merely—to give to the Problem a nearer semblance of the ending of a real game.

"*B. M. P.*"—We had not time to examine all the variations suggested by the position in question; but the defence given was from the inventor himself. The move of *B* to *B* 2nd is certainly preferable to playing it to *Q* 3rd. We fully concur with your opinions both on the match in America, and on that now pending here.

"*J. W.*"—*Guennap.*—Your strategem is better adapted for the interesting page of "Problems for Young Players," in the *Chess Player's Chronicle*, than for our columns; but we will find a place for it shortly.

"*M. E. A.*"—The position sent is an obvious mate of two instead of three moves.

"*Tom Noddy.*"—We do not understand the game.

"*W. J.*"—*Braford.*—If you can move none of your pieces, you are stalemated, and the game is drawn. Your solution is wrong.

"*A. W. J.*"—We have no space to adopt the recommendation.

"*Tyro.*"—You can take his *Kt* *Pawn* in passing if you choose, when he plays it forward two squares.

"*Eches.*"—*Belgrave-square.*—The problem received shall be examined. Your solution of No. 107 is correct.

"*W. B.*"—*Gravesend.*—It is impossible to prolong the mate by playing as you propose.

"*J. L.*"—*Plymouth.*—You have failed to discover the solution to No. 108. The other is correct.

"*W. H. R.*"—*Whittington.*—You are decidedly wrong, as you will find on examining the position with due attention. Upon your advancing the *Q* *P*, *Black* takes *Q* with *Rook*; then *Q* *Kt* *P* and the *King* escapes. Our solution is perfectly correct. If the *King* takes the *Kt*, it is obvious enough that the *Q* *B* *P* mates him.

"*A Slow Coach.*"—We did not overlook your variation of "B takes *R*," but we saw before, as we now see, that you most unaccountably persist in placing your Queen on the *P* with *Rook*; then *Q* *Kt* *P* and the *King* escapes. Our solution is perfectly correct. If the *King* takes the *Kt*, it is obvious enough that the *Q* *B</i*

FINE ARTS.



FRESCO FROM "COMUS," BY D. MACLISE, R. A.—FROM HER MAJESTY'S PAVILION, IN BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDENS.

THE DECORATIONS OF THE GARDEN-PAVILION IN THE GROUNDS OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

In returning to Mr. Gruner's illustrations of this artistical experiment, we have selected, for engraving, one of the *lunette* frescoes of the Central Octagonal Room, decorated with scenes from Milton's "Comus," which, says Mrs. Jameson, "at once classical, romantic, and pastoral, with all its charming associations of grouping, sentiment, and scenery, was just the thing to inspire English artists, to elevate their fancy to the height of their argument, to render their task at once a light and a proud one; while nothing could be more beautifully adapted to the shades of a trim garden devoted to the recreation of our Lady Sovereign than the chaste, polished, yet picturesque elegance of the poem considered as a creation of art."

From the eight *lunettes* we have selected the fifth, by Mr. Maclise, R.A.

Brightest Lady, look on me
Thus I sprinkle on thy breast
Drops, that from my fountain pure
I have kept of precious cure.

Comus, v. 910—919.

The Lady, spell-bound, not only "in stony fetters fixed and motionless," but asleep or in a trance, is seated in the marble chair. Sabrina and her attendant Nymphs are hovering round her. One Nymph presents in a shell the water "from the fountain pure." Sabrina, bending over the Lady, is about to sprinkle her and to pronounce "the dis severing charm." In front stand the two Brothers and the attendant Spirit. In the spandrels, two of the deformed "rabble rout" look down in affright.

This is, throughout, a masterly composition; and is, to our thinking, the most classical scene of the series.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

A very interesting contribution has just been made to the art-treasures of the National Gallery—in the addition of Banks's celebrated marble alto-relief group of Thetis and her Nymphs Ascending from the Sea to Condole with Achilles on the death of Patroclus. It is an oval, less than half the size of life; and is placed in the Hall of the Gallery, to the right of the entrance doorway.

This beautiful work of art had long been in private hands, and the public are indebted for its present allocation to Mr. Ambrose Poynter the architect, at whose disposal it was placed by Mrs. Forster (the daughter of Banks), on its reverting to that lady's possession. Beneath the oval is placed a small marble tablet, bearing the following:—

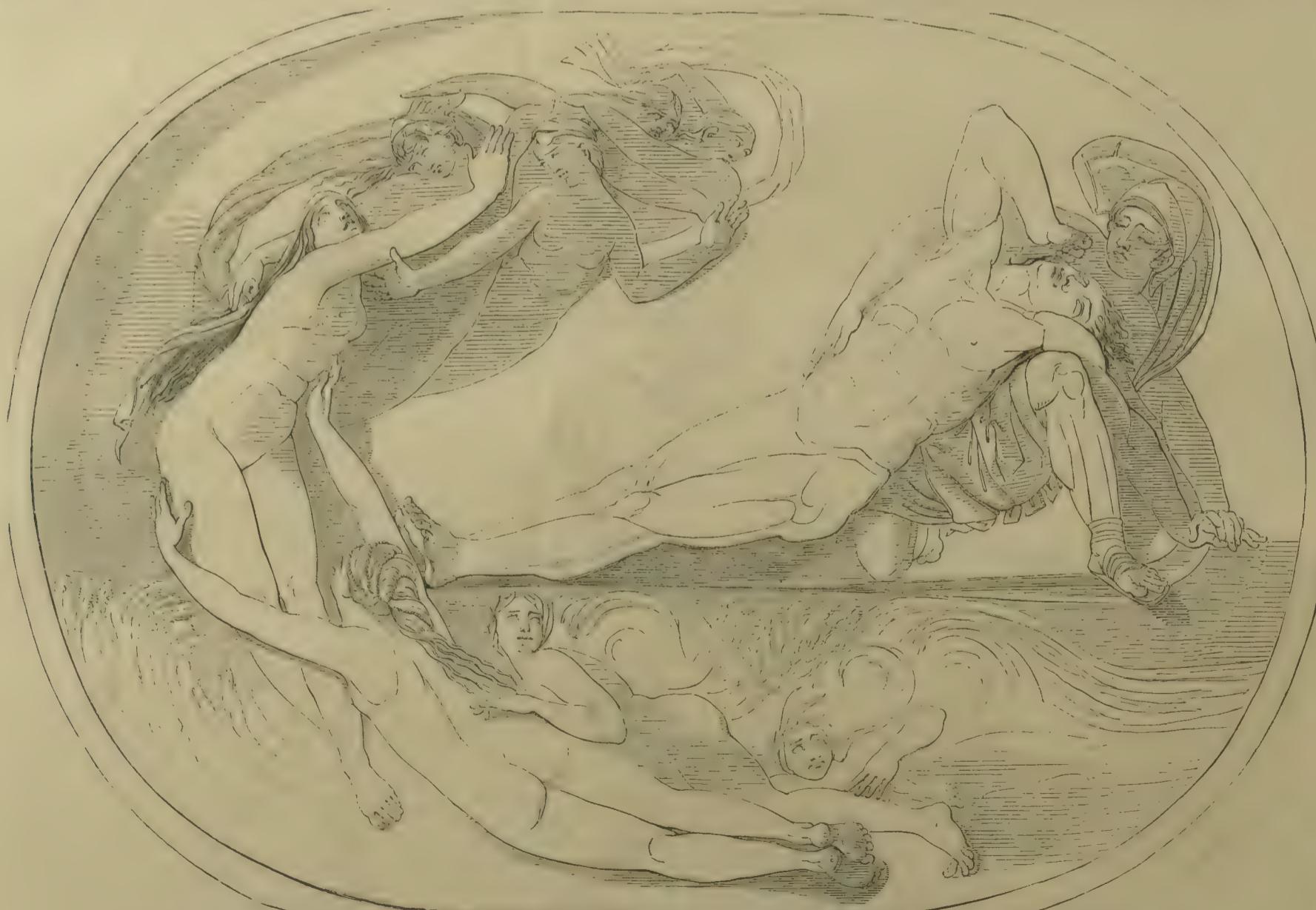
THETIS RISING FROM THE SEA TO CONSOLE
ACHILLES FOR THE LOSS OF BRISEIS,
BY THOMAS BANKS, R.A.
PRESENTED BY HIS DAUGHTER,
MRS. LAVINIA FORSTER.

This inscription was communicated by Mrs. Forster, who is on the Continent: it is, evidently, an error; since the only work executed by Banks, in illustration of Achilles and Briseis, is the noble figure of "the Mourning Achilles," now in the Hall of the British Institution. It should, however, be added, that Mr. Poynter had no opportunity of correcting the inscription tablet before it was fixed. It should, certainly, be set right.

Banks executed this beautiful composition of Thetis and her Nymphs Consoling Achilles, during one of the sculptor's summer visits to Hafod, in Wales: it embodies that graphic passage thus Englished by Cowper:—

So saying, she left the cave, whom all her nymphs
Attended, weeping, and where'er they passed,
The parting billows open'd wide a way.
At faithful Troy arriv'd, in order fair
They climb'd the beach, where, by his numerous barks
Encompass'd, swift Achilles sighing lay.
Then, drawing nigh to her afflicted son,
The Goddess, with a piercing shriek, his brows
Between her palms compress'd.

The sculptor has, unquestionably, felt this fine passage deeply: the Goddess and her Nymphs ascend from the sea like a mist; nor has the buoyant and elastic elegance of those figures been excelled in any work, either of ancient or modern art. Yet, Allan Cunningham considers that "the figure of Thetis, and likewise the forms of her companions, are, amidst all their beauty, longer in proportion than they ought to be; their extent of leg and thigh is enormous. But the buoyant ease with which they make their way from the waves, and the graceful elegance with which they sail into upper air, and surround, as with a garland, the mourning hero, disarm all censure, and leave little admiration for the Achilles who has cast himself down on the shore, and seems resolved on not being comforted. From the smallness of its dimensions, and the variety of beauty which it contains, this little work has become very popular, and is to be found in the studies of all our chief artists."—("Lives of British Painters, Sculptors, and Architects," vol. iii., page 101.)



ALTO-RELIEF OF THETIS AND HER NYMPHS ASCENDING FROM THE SEA TO CONSOLE WITH ACHILLES.—SCULPTURED BY BANKS, AND JUST PLACED IN THE NATIONAL GALLERY.



SCENE FROM THE NEW BALLET OF "THE ISLAND NYMPH," AT DRURY LANE THEATRE.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

The new fairy ballet, or rather *divertissement*, of the "Island Nymph," has been repeated with success. We have engraved the opening scene, with Nymphs disporting themselves on the sea-shore. "The atmospheric effect was beautiful (says the *Morning Post*); it was bright and luminous; and the *ballerines*, draped in white *sinars*, golden zoned, seemed the realisation of an antique *basso relivo*. The horizon becomes darkened, and the young girls seek shelter from the coming storm; and a shallot is seen in the distance, and a Greek youth is wrecked on the island, and scales a rock in the foreground, and the dark clouds disperse, and the scene gradually becomes 'sunny, blithe, and balmy,' and the Nymphs skip in.

"On ivory feet, like Moenads bright,

and dance around him, making a very heaven on earth; but *Edda*, the chief in beauty and in grace, suddenly 'suffers love' for the shipwrecked stranger and the unfortunate youth—yet not unfortunate, as the book sayeth, 'since he has encountered a being whose divine beauty has at once inspired him with the most passionate love.' And here, Mille. Maria, who appeared for the first time this season, was quite charming in her exhibition of the pretty pretension of nymphish fear—her downcast eyes, and eloquent action, and twinkling feet, advancing and receding, elicited deserved applause—it was charming and unconventional, and absolutely bordered on poetry. But here the *Queen of the Island* appears arrayed like chaste Diana for the chase; and, after some brief conversation, translated through the medium of *ronds de jambes*, *entrechats*, and *jetté battus*, the gentleman is invited to join the sport, but prefers to retire to a grotto and take some repose, and this closes the first act."

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

On Friday evening Miss Cushman made her first appearance here in Mr. Sergeant Talfourd's tragedy of "Ion." The attempt was, in some degree, bolder than her previous ones. The recollection of Mrs. Charles Kean (then Miss Ellen Tree), and also of Mr. Macready, was yet comparatively fresh in the minds of the playgoers; and each of these *artistes* had achieved a triumphant success in the part. The structure of the character of *Ion* we also conceived to be less adapted to Miss Cushman's style, than the majority of those in which she had already appeared. There are—more especially in the earlier scenes of the tragedy—few opportunities for the display of those bursts of energy and passion which constitute the most striking points of Miss Cushman's performances. The action of the play is too level, the dialogue too cold, although polished and classical, to admit of their being made. In spite of these unfavouring circumstances, however, Miss Cushman was perfectly successful in her representation of the character; and if, in the early acts, she did not evoke those frequent and loud bursts

of applause with which she had been greeted on former occasions, it was only because the sympathies of the audience had not been sufficiently aroused by the progress of the story. In fact, as Mr. Sergeant Talfourd has himself said of "Ion," "it is the phantasm of a tragedy—not a thing of substance—mortised into the living rack of humanity; and therefore incapable of exciting that interest which grows out of human feeling, or of holding that permanent place in the memory which truth only can attain."

In the fifth act of the play, Miss Cushman appeared to greater advantage, and her concluding scene was eminently impressive.

Her sister, Miss Susan Cushman, enacted *Clementine*. It was, upon the whole, a pleasing performance; on a level with her *Juliet*, but labouring, in some degree, under the disadvantages above alluded to. Mr. Stuart performed *Adrastus*; Mr. Hudson *Clesiphon*; and Mr. H. Holl *Phocion*. The acting of the two latter gentlemen was meritorious, inasmuch as it evidenced much pains-taking attention; but they were entirely out of their element. There was a loud burst of applause at the fall of the curtain, and the two sisters were called forward to receive the renewed approbation of the audience.

A very droll farce was produced on Thursday evening, which kept the audience in a roar of laughter from the beginning to the end. It is called "Lend Me Five Shillings," and is from the pen of Mr. Maddison Morton, being a translation of the French piece, "Riche d'Amour," in which Arnal is now playing at the Vaudeville. The fun being entirely dependent upon a rapid succession of comical situations, the plot is somewhat difficult to describe.

The piece begins quaintly enough with a quadrille at an assize ball, where Mr. Golightly (Mr. Buckstone) is captivated with the attractions of Mrs. Fobbs (Miss P. Horton), a pretty widow, whom he has met, whilst her husband was alive, some fifteen months previously at Harrowgate. To his great delight, she requests him to see her home, in a fly; but his happiness is soon crushed by recollecting that, in consequence of his losses at the card-table (which he rushed to in desperation, upon being rejected for a polka), he has not a farthing about him. On this position of affairs, the comicality of the piece hangs. He is driven to the most absurd perpetrations to borrow the money; and, through mistaking his Harrowgate flame for her sister-in-law (who is also present at the ball with her husband), involves himself in the most inextricable mass of perplexities; even to fighting a duel, and running the risk of being taken up for an utterer of false coin. Those who can call to mind the intense terror which is alone delineated by Buckstone in great difficulties, may imagine how ultra-ludicrous he made the character throughout the various dilemmas in which he was thrown. The piece never flagged for one instant, and was loudly applauded at the conclusion. Mr. Buckstone appeared before the curtain, and trusted that, as his character appeared to be tolerably good, and as he was personally known to the greater part of the audience, they would have no objection to lend him five shillings every evening until further notice. We can honestly recommend our readers to go and see this very laughable interlude.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert honoured the theatre with their presence, and laughed heartily at the perplexities of the unfortunate hero of the new production. It deserves to have a long run, and, we doubt not, will enjoy it. Buckstone's performance was admirable.

GERALD GAGE; OR, THE SECRET.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "SUSAN HOPLEY," ETC.

(Continued from page 118.)



HEN Mr. Livingstone landed at Portsmouth, on his arrival from India, he found Mr. Graves with outstretched arms on the beach, ready to embrace him. Had the latter been better acquainted with the man

he had to deal with, he would have known that nothing could possibly be more injudicious than this proceeding. Naturally of a suspicious disposition, and aware that nobody in the world had sixpenny worth of disinterested regard for him, Mr. Livingstone had returned to England with a thorough antipathy to heirs expectant, and an inexorable resolution not to be bored with them, and accordingly the *emprissement* of the nephew, which it was extremely difficult to suppress, was very soon required by the thorough detestation of the uncle. For a long time Mr. Graves neither could nor would believe in the alienation. He insisted that it was only Mr. Livingstone's manner; and when he found the door shut against himself, he forced in his wife and daughter, who, by their injudicious efforts to win the old man's heart, completed the mischief; and it was not till he wormed out Mr. Pilrig's strange disclosure in the stage-coach, that he was actually convinced of the disappointment awaiting him. From that moment, the constant study of both himself and his wife had been to keep the world in ignorance of this fatal secret, and to get their daughter well married on the strength of her great expectations, before the truth was discovered. But with respect to the latter enterprise, they had hitherto been unsuccessful. When suitors came to close enquiries, they found the fortune was too much *en l'air* to satisfy their tender affections for the *beaux yeux* of the young lady's *cassette*—and one after another fell off, just as they were supposed to be coming to the point. And yet matters were getting more and more urgent, resources were wearing out, creditors becoming pressing, and excuses growing stale. It was in this crisis of affairs that the ladies met Gerald at the *table d'hôte*; and when, after a couple of days' absence, Mr. Graves returned, he was immediately informed of the *rencontre*. "We must get acquainted with him, at all events," said he; "there is no telling what may come of it." So Mr. Graves waylaid Gerald at one of his resorts in the *Palais Royal*, and found no difficulty in making his acquaintance. Indeed, the young man, who was at his wit's end for means to carry on the war, was too happy to find himself courted by a gentleman who, from his conservation in the coach, he felt satisfied must be a man of immense fortune. Not that he had recollecting his features, till Mr. Graves reminded him of their former *rencontre*, and then they shook hands very cordially; and Mr. Graves invited Gerald to dine with him at Meurice's.



Rolinda wore her pink gros-de-Naples, and her pale hair was teased into innumerable small ringlets, with about half-a-dozen hairs in each. Gerald thought he had never seen anything less attractive than the *ensemble*; but he wanted friends and upholders at the moment, too much to be otherwise than extremely gallant and *empressé*. His fine friends had left Paris for Italy, but the consumptive state of his funds had prevented his accompanying them, and the same difficulty kept him in Paris. He fancied it was easier to live there upon nothing than in England; and he felt a mixture of shame and remorse that made him dread the sight of Emily. He was fully sensible of his own folly and of her good sense, and ardently wished he had had resolution to act according to her counsels, though he felt himself just as far as ever from being able to do so, and excused himself by the persuasion that it was now too late. Then, although he really loved her still, was fully sensible of what an admirable wife she would make him, and could not bear the thoughts of seeing her in the arms of another; he was so disgusted at the selfishness and cruelty that had induced him to break off her match with Mr. Weston, when he had no support to offer her himself, that he had for some time ceased even to write to her. "It's better that she should forget me," he said to himself; but he did not think she would, and if he had thought so, he would probably have written.

In the meantime Mr. Graves invited him frequently to dinner, and initiated him into some gambling secrets that he found very useful; and, as they were both actuated by secret motives of interest, unsuspected by the other, they soon became great friends.

CHAPTER VIII.

"Here, Emily, look at this," said old Miss Gage, to her young inmate one day. "I saw this paper at Baxter's shop, and I asked them to lend it me; for I think there is something in it that would suit you. You were saying the other day that you wished you could get a situation as



MISS CUSHMAN, AS "ION," AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE.

companion, and here is an advertisement for the very thing; and I am sure it must be something of a superior kind, for applications are to be made to Wright and Miller, and that is a first-rate London firm."

"I have heard Gerald speak of them," said Emily; "Charles Miller was one of his schoolfellows, and they were great friends."

"Yes," answered Miss Gage, "and his father and my brother were intimate all their lives. Hear what the advertisement says:—'Wanted as companion to an elderly gentleman and lady, a young lady of education and respectability; she must be well-tempered and cheerful'."

"I am sure I am not cheerful," interrupted Emily.

"Oh, but you are cheerful, naturally," answered Miss Gage, "though you are not so just now; and your spirits will return fast enough when you are out of your troubles."

"When will that be?" asked Emily, with a sigh.

"Never while you stay here, Emily, working your fingers to the bone for scarcely enough to keep body and soul together: but if you were once easy in your circumstances you'd soon recover your spirits."

"You speak as if my circumstances were the only trouble I had, Aunt," said Emily.

"Upon my word, I think they ought to be, my dear," answered Miss Gage. "I should be sorry to think you were fretting after a man who has left you alone to struggle with your difficulties for nearly a twelve-month, whilst he is living in luxury and idleness; and who has not even written to you for some months."

"I may be at least allowed to grieve that Gerald should be capable of doing so," replied Emily, with a sigh.

"It is a very lamentable thing that he should, certainly," answered Miss Gage; "and as he is my nephew, I have as much right to regret it as you can have; and so I do: but the contempt such conduct deserves ought to come to your aid, as it does to mine. He has pursued his own inclinations without the least regard to your claims on his affection, and as he has sown he must reap. I should think it arrant baseness in you to continue to love him after the neglect with which he has treated you."

"I dare say it is, said Emily; "but it is not so easy as those who have never tried may think, to cure oneself of loving a person that has long been dear to us, by simply thinking of his unworthiness. Time may do it, perhaps."

"And to give time a fair chance, you should get free as soon as possible of this lonely, hopeless, melancholy sort of life."

"The life of a companion will, probably, be just as dull," said Emily.

"It will not be so laborious, at any rate," answered Miss Gage. "Now do, Emily, let me answer the advertisement. I do not know Mr. Miller myself, but I am sure, for my brother's sake, he will be disposed to listen to my recommendation."

And, after some persuasion, Emily having consented to the proposal, the letter was sent; and, in due time, an answer arrived requesting the appearance of the young lady in London.

"I am very glad you wrote so immediately," said Mr. Miller; "for the candidates are coming in thick and fast; although, in mercy to ourselves, foreseeing the pressure that would ensue, we only said 'a liberal salary will be given,' instead of saying, as we were directed, that 'provided the person suited, terms would be no object.' However, that is really the case; and, if your young *protégée*, who, from your description, appears eminently fitted for the situation, can reconcile herself to the confinement, she may, I think, find it both very profitable and very comfortable."

"There, now, Emily, I am quite delighted that I insisted on writing. You must set off to-morrow morning; and I should not the least wonder if this is to be a turn in your fortune."

"I wonder what Gerald would think of it?" said Emily.

"I'm sure that is of very little consequence," answered Miss Gage. "Go, and pack up your things, and think no more of Gerald, I entreat."

Emily observed the first injunction, though not the second; and, in due time, she presented herself at Mr. Miller's, who had, in compliment to the sister of his old friend, requested she would make his house her home, till the affair was settled.

"I think you and the situation will suit each other admirably," said he. "I am sure my client must be a more unreasonable man than I think him, if he be not pleased; and, although you may have some eccentricities to put up with, and may be required to read out loud more than you like, you will meet with a great deal of kindness, and will live in the midst of luxury."

"What is the gentleman's name," enquired Emily, "and how old is he?"

"Why, his name we are not permitted to tell; he is so afraid of being troubled with direct applications from quarters that would not be agreeable, if the thing became public. With respect to his age, he is sixty-five."

"But that is not so very old," objected Emily, with some alarm, "I am afraid!"

"He'll hear what you say very well," said Mr. Miller, "never fear. He can hear what he likes."

Emily had great misgivings; she thought she should not like it at all, and regretted her journey to London, which had cost as much as would have maintained her for a fortnight; but Mr. Miller was so kind, that she forebore to enforce her objections, and consented to accompany him to the gentleman on the following morning; whom perhaps our readers will have already guessed was no other than Mr. Livingstone. Nicky's hearing had become so imperfect as to render her unfit for her office of interpreter, and he wanted somebody to fill her situation. A young man, he affirmed, he could have no confidence in—he would be wild, if he were not stupid, and would not like the quiet, prosy life; and either man or woman that was not young would not be sufficiently pliable to submit to his ways and notions. Besides, he argued that men more easily found employment, and that there were many reduced gentlewomen to whom the situation would be a Godsend, "for you know Miller," said he, "if I like her, she shall not be turned destitute into the world when I die. I shall want somebody to take care of Nicky, and I will provide for her."

(To be continued.)

COURT AND HAUT TON.

HER MAJESTY'S LEVEE.

Her Majesty held her second Levee for the season on Wednesday, at St. James's Palace, which was attended by the Cabinet Ministers, Great Officers of the Household, and a great number of the nobility and gentry.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert left Buckingham Palace in the usual state shortly before two o'clock.

The Queen and her illustrious Consort were loudly cheered as the Royal *cortege* passed through the Park. The presentations were numerous.

In the evening, her Majesty had a dinner party at Buckingham Palace. The invitations included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Buccleuch, the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Howley, his Excellency Count Pollio, the Marquess of Abercorn, Lord John Russell, Earl Cadwra, and Morley, Lady Fanny Howard, Colonel the Right Hon. G. L. Dawson Damer, the Hon. Bingham Baring, Baroness de Speath, and the Hon. and Rev. C. Leslie Courtenay.

HER MAJESTY'S HEALTH.—It is stated in the best informed circles that her Majesty's confinement is not expected before the end of May.

NEW LORD CHAMBERLAIN.—It is generally understood that the Earl of Liverpool, at present Lord Steward of her Majesty's Household, is to succeed the Earl Delaware as Lord Chamberlain.

MARRIAGE OF MISS MILES.—We understand that the nuptials of Mr. Tudway with Miss Miles, daughter of Mr. Miles, M.P., will be celebrated in the first week of March next.

THE LATE ATTEMPTED MURDER AND SUICIDE AT BRENTFORD.—On Tuesday, Thomas Lowe, aged 73, was committed for trial, for stabbing his son, a shoemaker, at Brentford, on the 18th of January last. It will be recollected that after committing the crime with which he stands charged, the prisoner attempted to cut his own throat, and was not, until Tuesday, sufficiently recovered to undergo an examination.

SUSPECTED ARSON AT HAMMERSMITH.—On Wednesday, the further examination of the three persons, viz., John Stone, sen., Anne Stone, otherwise Ann Hyde, and John Stone, jun., on a charge of having wilfully set fire to a house in the occupation of the elder prisoner, in the Bridge-road, Hammersmith, took place, and, after hearing additional evidence, which tended to confirm the suspicion against the prisoners, they were committed for trial.

DREADFUL MURDERS AND SUICIDE AT CAMBERWELL.

Shortly after seven o'clock on Monday morning, the neighbourhood of Southampton-place, Camberwell, was thrown into consternation by the frantic screams of a woman who had just made her escape, by the back door of No. 5, Wellington-place, a small cottage residence, only two stories high. The first person who repaired to the spot was Mr. Pratt, a surgeon, who resided at No. 4, and who, upon entering, was horror-struck at the scene which presented itself. In an upper room, upon the floor, lay the lifeless body of M. Philaret Horeau, a Frenchman, aged 53, with his throat cut from ear to ear; on the bed, his son, aged 13, quite dead, shockingly mutilated about the throat; and in a lower room, another son, aged 11, with his throat cut, a wound on the cheek, and his hand much lacerated, who was at first supposed to be dead, but afterwards showed some symptoms of life, but totally unable to articulate or give the least account of the dreadful catastrophe; and in a short time afterwards, a male child, aged eight months, was found dead in a rain-butt which stood in the garden, but having no wounds whatever about its person.

Upon investigation it appeared that the unfortunate man had resided at No. 5 for nearly the last twelvemonth, supporting his family as a teacher of languages; but this mode of existence had been so precarious, that, for some time past, they had suffered extreme privation and great pecuniary embarrassment. M. Horeau had been in the habit of rising about seven in the morning, and usually took down stairs with him one of the twin infants (a male and female), who slept in the same bed as he and the mother. On the morning of the murder, he did the same thing, taking the child with him, and leaving the female infant in bed with the mother. In a few minutes the mother was alarmed by a loud shrieking, which she at first attributed to the two elder boys quarrelling, and therefore took no farther notice of the matter for a few moments, but the shrieking being continued, she went to the room, and, upon opening the door, was met by the younger boy, who immediately ran down stairs bleeding, at the bottom of which he fell down apparently lifeless; and, on entering the room, Mrs. Horeau saw her unfortunate husband in the act of cutting his own throat, and before she could interpose, he had fallen down a corpse. On looking farther, she discovered her eldest son dead in the bed, but could not perceive any trace of her infant child, who was, however, shortly afterwards discovered to have been drowned in the rain-butt. There is no doubt whatever but that the unfortunate father proceeded to the garden instantly on leaving his bed room, and, having drowned the child, then ascended to the children's room, where he afterwards perpetrated the other murder, committing suicide the moment an alarm was raised. As no vital organ has been spared, hope are entertained that the younger boy's life will be saved, although, of course, there is great danger that he will not survive the shock. There seems to be little doubt but that, owing to their privations, temporary insanity was the immediate cause of this shocking affair, as his pecuniary embarrassments had, for some weeks past, induced great depression of spirits.

An inquest was held on Wednesday, at the Bricklayer's Arms, Southampton-street, as to the deaths of M. Philaret Horeau, and Helvetius and William Horeau, his sons, who were murdered by him on Monday morning, previous to his own suicide.

The inquiry lasted six hours, but the evidence was merely confirmatory of the above account. Mrs. Horeau, the widow, deposed as follows:—The family retired to bed on Sunday about eleven. Helvetius and his brother (who is now going on well) slept up stairs, where the bodies were lying. Her husband and she, with two twin children, slept in the parlour below. Her husband got up about seven on Monday, taking one of the children (the deceased William) with him into the garden. In about an hour she heard a scream, and afterwards went up stairs to their son's room. When she got there her husband was in the act of cutting his throat, and holding Helvetius, who had also his throat cut, down on the floor. She instantly ran down stairs, but took the chain so fastened that she could not open the front door; and having got into the garden, gave an alarm, when several persons came. When she got back to the kitchen she found another son (Philaret) standing up, and he had also his throat cut. The infant (William) she afterwards discovered had been drowned in the rain butt.

To the Coroner: She had no doubt these deaths were the act of her husband, and that they had been caused by his great irritability of mind, caused by extreme want. He was often unable to supply the children with food.

The Jury returned the following verdict:—"We find a verdict of Wilful Murder against Philaret Horeau, as regards the death of Helvetius and William Horeau, and we find that the said Philaret Horeau destroyed himself while in a state of temporary insanity, produced by extreme privation and want."

A MASTER SHOT BY HIS APPRENTICE.

At an early hour on Monday morning a premeditated murder was committed by an apprentice, named Thomas Wicks, aged 19 years, upon his master, Mr. James Bostock, a brass-founder, residing in Pitt's-place, Drury-lane. It appears that on Saturday evening last, the master had occasion to send the youth to one of his customers, with an order, for which he directed him to bring back the money. This he failed to do, and after being severely rebuked for his misconduct, he went home to his mother, with whom he resided, in Great Wild-street, but came back in a sulky mood. He had only been a few minutes in the place, when, as Mr. Bostock was in the act of stooping to light the fire, the apprentice stepped behind him, and discharged the contents of a loaded pistol into the side of his head, at the back of his ear. He then ran out of the house, but it has since been ascertained he delayed a considerable time in the neighbourhood, and even took a glass of rum at a public-house in Drury-lane. An alarm being given, two constables of the F division arrived in a short time, and the unfortunate man was conveyed by them to the King's College Hospital, in Portugal-street, in a state of insensibility, and, as the ball could not be extricated, he was attacked with frequent convulsions until he expired, a little after three o'clock in the afternoon.

There is every reason to suspect that an ill feeling has existed for some time between the parties, for the youth, accompanied by his mother, applied for and obtained a summons against his master, at Bow-street Police-court, on the 3rd instant, for neglecting to teach him his business, and also for refusing to pay him the sum of 2s. 6d. for work and labour done. The complaint was heard on the 6th instant, and dismissed, on the ground that, as no mention was made of wages in the indenture, he could not be legally entitled to any remuneration for his work, which should be considered as the property of his master. The circumstance seemed to engender in his mind a spirit of revenge, which led him to embrace the first opportunity of carrying out his determination to take away the life of his master, for the police have discovered the shop where he had purchased, several days previously, a pistol, with some powder, and a quantity of slugs.

The murderer is rather remarkable in his appearance, being of less than the ordinary stature, and having a considerable hesitation in his speech.

He was apprehended shortly after ten o'clock on Monday night, by Thompson and Pocock, two constables of the F Division, at a small coffee-shop, in Little Queen-street, Holborn. He was immediately removed to the chief Police-station, in Bow-street, where the charge was formally entered against him.

When placed at the bar at the station, after his apprehension, to have the charge entered against him, addressing Sergeant Pocock, who took him into custody, he said, "I can't blame you, Pocock, for what you have done; but the villain (meaning the deceased) should have had it twelve months back, for his scandalous and cruel conduct to me;" at the same time holding out his right hand in a most determined manner.

On Tuesday morning he was examined at Bow-street Police-office, on the charge of murder.

The possession of a pistol, with powder and bullets, by Wicks, was proved in a very clear manner by a tradesman named Stone, who keeps an oil-shop in Great Wild-street. Wicks went into Mr. Stone's shop on Saturday, the 7th inst., and purchased a small quantity of gunpowder, remarking at the time that he was going out shooting on the following day (Sunday). On Monday, the 9th inst., he again visited Mr. Stone's shop, and purchased on that occasion another small quantity of powder. Mr. Stone asked him what he had shot on the previous day, to which he replied by giving a description of some bird which Mr. Stone imagined to be a snipe. Doubting the fact, Mr. Stone asked him what sort of a gun he used, whereupon Wicks pulled out from his breast a bright-barrelled pistol, about six inches long. Mr. Stone next asked him what sort of shot he used, to which question Wicks replied by producing three or four small bullets. At Mr. Stone's request, Wicks gave him one of the latter to see if it would fit a pistol he had in use.

The deceased has left a widow, but no children.

After several witnesses had given their evidence, which went in corroboration of the above facts,

John Collen, 44 F, stated that on Saturday night he was called to take the prisoner into custody for detaining money. It was the deceased who called him into the room where the prisoner was sitting. He said that he was his apprentice, and had sent him for money, which he said he had lost on his return.

The prisoner: If you allow me, I can tell you all about it in a more straightforward manner than the witness can.

Constable Thompson, F division, proved that on Monday night about ten o'clock, he went to a coffee-shop, 72, Great Queen-street, where he found the prisoner in the front parlour. He took hold of him and said he was his prisoner on a charge of murder. Witness cautioned him, for which he thanked him, and said that it was all right. He then put his hand into the prisoner's coat pocket, but the prisoner said there was nothing in it. "I bunged that (meaning the pistol) at Gravesend." He then asked if his master was dead, and, being told he was, he said he had been a — rogue to him, and he had his satisfaction.

"This has been brewing for him for twelve months. He had me for my money, and not for my work." He then asked if the deceased was really dead, and witness said such was the case. He then said, "I shall die happy, I dare say. I shall suffer for it." He found 7s. upon him.

Prisoner: 7s. 2d. if you please. What you say is perfectly true.

The prisoner, on being asked for his defence, made a rambling statement about the dispute with his master. He was committed to Newgate for trial.

An inquest was held on Thursday on the body of Mr. Bostock. The evidence was similar to that given at Bow-street, and the Jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against Thomas William Wicks.

AWFULLY SUDDEN DEATH.—On Wednesday Mr. Wakley held an inquest at the Champion public-house, Wellington-terrace, Bayswater, on view of the body of Mr. Benjamin Bradwell, aged twenty-eight years, whose death took place under the following awfully sudden circumstances—it appeared deceased was a green-

grocer, residing three doors from the above public-house. On Sunday last, shortly before one o'clock at mid-day, he left home with his wife to dine with a friend in town. They walked as far as the small gate into Kensington Gardens, when the deceased hailed an omnibus, and putting his wife inside, said he would get up outside. At that time he appeared in perfect health, and while getting up he fell backwards to the ground, as the witnesses stated, completely dead.—Verdict "Natural death."

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The present week's arrivals of English wheat for our market have been on the increase, and of improved quality. To-day the stands were fairly supplied with samples of that article, which met a very dull inquiry, at barely Monday's quotations, and the clearance was not effected. The imports of foreign wheat have been small. Holders of free quantities held firm, few transactions took place, at unaltered figures. Bonded wheat nominal. The supply of barley exceeding the wants of the dealers the barley trade was heavy, at barely the late depression in the currencies. Although the quantity of malt was not large the sale for it was heavy, at barely late rates. The supply of Irish oats being on the increase the oat trade was dull, and, in some instances, prices had a downward tendency. Beans, peas, and flour as last advised.

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 52d; barley, 77d; oats, 48d. Irish: wheat, —; barley, —; oats, 21d, 12d. Foreign: wheat, 12d; barley, 64d; oats, 31d. Flour, 47d 10s sacks; 56d 750s quarters.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 49s to 59s; ditto, white, 56s to 67s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 51s to 57s; ditto, white, 56s to 65s; rye, 31s to 33s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; distilling, 25s to 28s; malting ditto, 32s to 35s; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 54s to 56s; brown ditto, 49s to 52s; Kingston and Ware, 58s to 60s; Chevalier, 60s to 62s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, 62s to 65s; 29s to 27s; tick beans, new, 31s to 33s; ditto, 36s to 39s; grey peas, 32s to 34s; maple, 33s to 35s; white, 38s to 40s; boilers, 41s to 45s, per quarter. Town-made flour, 50s to 55s; Suffolk, 39s to 41s; Stockton, 28s to 30s; York, 28s to 30s; 280 lbs. Foreign: wheat, 24s to 26s; ditto, 24s to 26s; rye, 19s to 22s; beans, 42s to 44s; peas, 46s to 50s, per quarter. Flour, American, 30s to 32s; Baltic, — to —, per barrel.

Seed Market.—The seed trade has been in a very sluggish state, this week, at about stationary prices.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BUSSELTON, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

CHURCH IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

This timely provision for the spiritual and temporal welfare of the colonists and natives of Western Australia has lately been erected at Busselton, in the Vasse District, about 130 miles south of Perth, the seat of Government. It affords a considerable frontage to Geography Bay, and is also well watered by the River Vasse.

For some years, the project of erecting a Church in this neighbourhood had been agitated, and many of the settlers, as well as their friends in England, exerted themselves to bring about so desirable an object; amongst them, none were more active than the Bussell family, from whom the townsite takes its name. In the latter part of the year 1843, funds considered sufficient for erecting the walls and covering-in of the same having been received from England in addition to the local subscriptions, it was resolved to proceed thus far, trusting to future exertions for completion. Plans and estimates were, accordingly, prepared by Mr. F. Brabazon Forsayth; the foundation-stone laid on the 4th of March of the following year; and the Church was opened in April, 1845, by the much respected Chaplain of the District, the Rev. J. R. Wollaston, attended by a large assemblage of the inhabitants for a circuit of many miles.

The building, of which the annexed is a correct representation, from a drawing made upon the spot, is a plain but substantial stone edifice, with circular headed windows and doorways: between the former and at the cornices are buttresses reaching to the line of springing. The Nave or body of the Church is forty feet long, and twenty feet wide; the Chancel fourteen feet long by twelve feet wide; the walls are sixteen feet to the line of roof; the exterior presenting a height of eighteen feet from the ground to the parapets, which extend all round.

The roof, which is of native mahogany, is constructed with principals, purlines, &c.; they are very massive, and, having been well oiled, they have a very handsome appearance. The whole roof, externally, is close-boarded and shingled.

The Chancel, which is raised two steps from the Nave, is lit by a window on each side, in addition to the three-light window over the altar. A bell-gable rises about 10 feet above the west-end, the dead wall of which is somewhat relieved by a circular window. The congregation are, however, in hopes of being enabled to affix a characteristic tower, which the architect's original plan embraced.

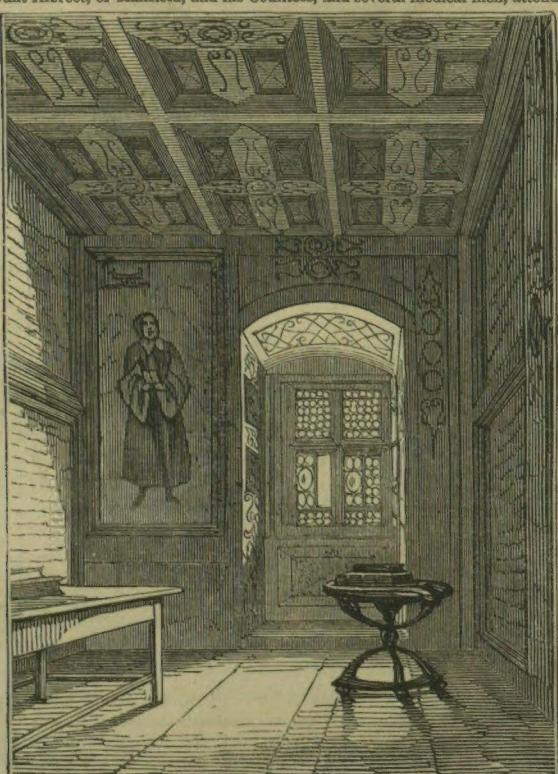
The interior fittings at the present time are necessarily of the simplest description, no pews being available for the purpose. Suitable open pews on each side of a centre aisle are intended to afford accommodation for about 140 persons.

The total amount of money expended has been £300; and, considering the scantiness of funds, as also the difficulty of procuring workmen, the whole has given very general satisfaction.

TRICENTENARY OF THE DEATH OF LUTHER.

Wednesday, the 18th instant—the three-hundredth anniversary of the Death of Luther, "the solitary Monk who shook the World," was to have been celebrated with great pomp in all the Lutheran churches of Prussia. We hope to be enabled to present to our readers some graphic record of this memorable solemnity.

The last days of the fearless Reformer may be thus narrated. At the beginning of 1546, Luther repaired from Wittenberg to Elsteben, where he preached four times, and also revised a plan of regulations concerning the ecclesiastical discipline of that little State. He had been, for some time, in a very precarious state of health: on the 17th of February, he felt very ill and weak, laid himself on a couch, spoke of his approaching death, for which he appeared quite prepared, and recommended his soul to Jesus. He grew worse in the evening. Count Albrecht, of Mansfeld, and his Countess, and several medical men, attended



LUTHER'S CHAMBER AT ERFURT.

him during his last hours. His old friend, Dr. Jonas, having asked him: "Reverend father, do you die with a firm conviction of the faith you have taught?" Luther, in a distinct voice, replied, "Yes;" and soon after breathed his last. His body was carried to Wittenberg, where it was buried with great honours. Thus the Reformer passed from earth; of whom it has been eloquently said: "Such were the great talents and qualities of Luther, and such the situation of Europe at the time, that the Reformation, in fact, passed from the mind of the one into the mind of the other."—(Professor Smyth's "Lectures on Modern History.")

Every site associated with the personal or public history of Luther is regarded as hallowed ground; whilst, "the form of the monk of Wittenberg, emerging from the receding gloom of the middle ages, appears towering above the sovereigns and warriors, statesmen and divines, of the sixteenth century, who were his contemporaries, his antagonists, or his disciples."

We have engraved two of these venerated localities.—1. A view of the interior of the chamber which Luther occupied in the old Augustine Convent at Erfurt. While at the University here, Luther appears to have led a careless life; but, in 1505, one of his fellow students was killed at his side by lightning, and Luther, from that moment, made a vow to become a monk. On the 17th of July, in the same year, he entered the Augustine Convent at Erfurt, carrying with him only a Virgil and a Plautus. In the retirement of this convent, Luther was tormented by temptations, and religious scruples and doubts, which he has pathetically described; especially on the subject of faith and salvation, until he at last adopted the principles of St. Augustin, or at least those ascribed to that Father, on grace and predestination.

The second memorial is a ruined house in the village of Neuenheim, in the environs of the town of Heidelberg, in the Grand-Duchy of Baden. This dwelling was formerly part of a monastery, the farm-buildings of which may also be traced in the neighbourhood. "The house" is little more than a cottage; but it is remarkable as the place of Luther's concealment for several months, after he had quitted the Diet of Worms, convoked in the year 1521, by the Emperor Charles V. The two windows of the first story are reputed to be those of the chamber



LUTHER'S HOUSE, NEAR HEIDELBERG.

wherein Luther concealed himself from the close pursuit of his persecutors. Upon the gable of a small building adjoining the cottage, may be traced the figures 1525, which are supposed to relate to the date of Luther's sojourn here.

THE REPORT OF THE GAUGE COMMISSIONERS, Sir Frederick Smith, and Professors Barlow and Airey, has been published. It enters into very long and minute inquiries, and disquisitions, which it is impossible for us to analyse, and concludes with four resolutions, recommending the interference of the Legislature to prevent the increase of the evils already produced by diversity of gauge, and to take practical measures for the remedy of these evils, by substituting the narrow gauge universally for the broad, or by some equivalent measure. This they recommend in the following terms:—"That the gauge of four feet eight inches and a half be declared by the Legislature to be the gauge to be used in all public railways now under construction, or hereafter to be constructed, in Great Britain."

IMPROVEMENT IN WAISTCOATS.—Mr. Goddard, of Nottingham, has just patented an expanding waistcoat back, which secures great comfort to the wearer, and completely insures the well-sitting of the waistcoat. The invention has only to be known to be generally adopted.

CLEANSING OF THE STREETS.—The association for this important object, in conjunction with the employment of the poor, have published a most interesting report of their recent experiment, with the calculated financial results, which we especially recommend to the attention of municipal and local authorities. The second Anniversary Dinner of this excellent association will take place on Thursday next, when the Duke of Cambridge has kindly consented to preside.

A DOUBLE COMET.

To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

Sir,—The fact of a *double* Comet is a circumstance of so unique and interesting a nature, that I beg to be allowed, through the medium of your columns, to communicate the following particulars, with a sketch of its appearance, which will interest very many of your readers, as this is the first instance of a phenomenon of this kind having been seen.

The drawing is from a sketch and description of its appearance by John Glaisher, Esq., at the Observatory of Dr. Lee, at Hartwell, on the evening of February 8th.

As some particulars of its history, with its predicted places, were published by you in October last, in the "Illustrated London Almanack, for 1846," I refer to that work for those particulars—remarking, however, that it was never seen double before the present time.

I shall now proceed with its history, since its discovery, on Nov. 29, 1845,

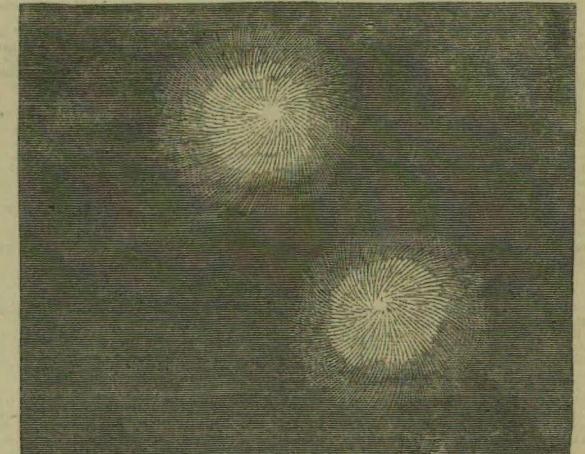
which time it was seen by Professor Encke, at Berlin. On December 1, it was discovered by Professor Challis, at Cambridge; and observed by him both on the 1st and the 2nd day of December. At this time it appeared as a faint, misty patch of light; it had no nucleus, or central condensation of light, and was distinguishable from a faint nebula only by its motion.

On January 15, 1846, Professor Challis thought he saw a much fainter Comet, having a bright speck, near the one he was observing, but, from the improbability of finding a Comet in that position, he supposed it to be a star surrounded by haze.

On January 23rd, the Professor was surprised to see distinctly, at a short distance from the Comet, an object occupying nearly the same relative position as the object observed on the 15th, and which had all the appearance of a Second Comet, and both objects were found to move relatively as compared with a star near them. The new Comet preceded the other by five seconds; it was less bright, and of less apparent diameter than the other; each had a central condensation of light, and the coma of one did not extend to that of the other.

After this time the double Comet was seen by most observers.

On Feb. 8, as seen at Dr. Lee's Observatory, at Hartwell, the light of the greater Comet was far more intense than that of the other, but they seemed nearly to cover equal spaces, each being of a circular form. The larger one followed the other by seven seconds, and it was above it in the field of the telescope; it had a stellar nucleus, the other had nothing more than a condensation of light towards the centre: the coma of one was at times supposed to merge into the other, but the light was so attenuated that it was barely perceptible. Since the discovery of the second Comet the observed places have departed from the predicted places; at the present time the amount of this departure is about 14 minutes of arc in North Polar Distance, the observed being greater than the predicted places by this amount.



DOUBLE COMET.

On January 23, Professor Challis measured the distance of the centre of one Comet from the other, and it was 145 seconds of arc

"	24	"	"	"	"	148
"	27	"	"	"	"	169
"	28	"	"	"	"	174
"	29	"	"	"	"	175

And on Feb. 8 the distance was "

By referring to the "Illustrated London Almanack," for these days, it will be seen that the Comet is rapidly approaching the earth; but the great increase of distance is much more than can be accounted for from this cause; therefore, they are actually separating from each other.

On Jan. 23, the angle made by the line joining the two Comets, with a vertical line passing through the greater Comet, was $32^{\circ} 17'$, and on Feb. 8, it was $24^{\circ} 4'$, so that the one appears to revolve round the other, or both round a centre of gravity.

It will be highly interesting to observe the motions of these two singular bodies; and, should there be any marked difference in their appearance, I will forward another drawing of them to you. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Blackheath, Feb. 14, 1846.

JAMES GLAISHER.

Since the above was written, Professor Challis has published a letter in the Times of Feb. 16th, from which it appears that he has succeeded in obtaining observations on the Double Comet on Feb. 11th, 12th, and 13th. On the latter day the small one preceded the other by $8^{\circ} 3'$; and the measured distance between the two was 293 seconds of arc.

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

BEDDINGTON HOUSE.

At an easy distance from the town of Croydon, ten miles south-east of the metropolis, lie the picturesque park, and substantial mansion known as Beddington House, the long-continued residence of the ancient family of the Carews (originally from Devonshire), and now the seat of Capt. Charles Hallowell, R.N., who, having succeeded to the property, took the name and arms of Carew, by Royal license, in 1835.

Of the original mansion erected by Sir Francis Carew, and in which he had twice the honour to receive the visits of Queen Elizabeth, not a vestige remains, except the Great Hall. The present house was built about the year 1709; at which time Beddington was in the possession of Sir Nicholas Carew, who was created a Baronet by Queen Anne. It is a brick edifice, with stone dressings, and consists of a centre and two wings; with the Great Hall for a nucleus. This fine specimen of the domestic architecture of the age of Elizabeth is entered by a handsome stone portal; and is surmounted by an Italian decorated turret. It has an oaken open roof, in the manner of our college halls: the principal ribs spring from large carved and gilt brackets, and form an equilateral pointed arch, which, being undercut with smaller ribs, assumes the trefoil character: over each arch is a strong beam, forming a brace with the rafters. The flooring is paved with lozenge-shaped slabs of black and white marble; and the walls are wainscoted with oak, in panels. The walls are decorated with carved arms and trophies; and the piers are hung with portraits. The old fire-place has, however, been filled in, and and-irons substituted. On the great entrance-door is an Elizabethan lock, wrought of iron, and covered with elaborate Gothic tracery richly gilt; the key-hole is concealed by a shield of the Royal Arms, which moves in a groove, and slides down on touching a knob in the form of a monk's head.

The lower story of the south wing contains the dining and drawing rooms, and other large apartments, (most of which were repaired and modernised in 1817); together with a long gallery that extends through its entire length.

The grounds retain much of the character of the old school of gardening; and, towards the east, is a waterfall, supplied by the river Wandle, which intersects the park in its course to the Thames. There is, also, a spacious canal on the west, derived from the same stream, and ornamented on each side by a row of venerable elms; parallel with which, is a fine avenue of chestnut trees of stately growth; and near the house, on the north-west, are some remarkably large walnut trees. The park, three or four miles in circumference, is well wooded, and abounds with deer. In our illustration is shown the Mansion, and the tower of Beddington Church, a structure of the reign of Richard II.—(Abridged from the New History of Surrey.)



BEDDINGTON HOUSE.

Queen Elizabeth's oak, and her favourite walk, were long pointed out here. The fine old place, too, long enjoyed great note in horticultural history; for, here the first orange-trees were raised in England, and flourished for about a century and a half. In short, Beddington, with its olden celebrity, is a place of great attraction for strollers from the metropolis.

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